

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3507.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1895.

PRICE
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REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,

Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W.
TUESDAY NEXT (January 15), at 3 o'clock, Professor CHARLES STEWART, M.R.C.S., Fullerian Professor of Physiology, R.I., First of Twelve Lectures on 'The Internal Framework of Plants and Animals.' One Guinea the Course.

THURSDAY (January 17), at 3 o'clock, WILLIAM SAMUEL LILLY, Esq., M.A., Hon. Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge, First of Four Lectures on 'Four English Humourists of the Nineteenth Century.' Half-a-Guinea.

SATURDAY (January 19), at 3 o'clock, LEWIS F. DAY, Esq., First of Three Lectures on 'Stained Glass Windows and Painted Glass from the point of view of Art and Craftsmanship.' Half-a-Guinea.

Subscription to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas.
FRIDAY (January 18), at 9 o'clock, Professor DEWAR, M.A. LL.D., F.R.S., Phosphorescence and Photographic Action at the Temperature of Boiling Liquid Air.

To the Friday Evening Meetings Members and their friends only are admitted.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—

THE FOURTH MEETING of the SESSION will be held on WEDNESDAY NEXT, January 16, at 32, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.

Antiquities will be exhibited, and the following Papers read:—
1. 'The Importance of Preserving Welsh MSS. and Documents,' by W. DE GRAY RICH, Esq., F.S.A.
2. 'Recent Discoveries in Bristol,' by ALF. C. FRYER.
W. DE GRAY RICH, F.S.A., } Honorary
E. P. LOFTUS BROCK, F.S.A., } Secretaries.

FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE SOCIETY will be held at 22, Albemarle-street, on WEDNESDAY, January 16, at 8 p.m. Agenda:—

1. To receive Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
 2. To elect President, Vice-Presidents, Council, and Officers.
 3. Annual Address of the President (Mr. Edward Clodd).
 - F. A. MILNE, Secretary.
- 11, Old-square, Lincoln's Inn, January 8, 1895.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS.—THE EXHIBITION

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ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER

COLOURS.—ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES.—The day appointed for receiving Works by Candidates is WEDNESDAY, February 6, and the day of election FRIDAY, February 8.
ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

GOVERNMENT GRANT OF 4,000L. TO DEFRAY

THE EXPENSES OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS.—Applications for the year 1895 to be considered at the ANNUAL MEETING of the GOVERNMENT GRANT COMMITTEE must be forwarded to the SECRETARIES, Royal Society, Burlington House, London, W., marked "Government Grant," by February 28, and must be written upon printed forms which can be obtained from the ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

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MOUNT VIEW, HAMPSHIRE.—The NEXT

TERM will BEGIN on MONDAY, January 21. Reference kindly allowed to Mrs. Benson, Lambeth Palace; Professor John Ruskin, Brantwood, Coniston; Mrs. M. Shaw Lefevre, 41, Seymour-street, W.; and others.—Prospectus on application to Miss HELEN E. BATES.

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L. J. GRANT, interim Secretary University Court.
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LITERATURE

Memoirs of the Right Honourable Sir John Alexander Macdonald, G.C.B., First Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada. By Joseph Pope. 2 vols. (Arnold.)

THE late Sir John Macdonald was the most noteworthy Canadian of his day. In his lifetime he received many distinctions, and on June 11th, 1891, he was honoured with a State funeral in Canada. A special service was simultaneously held in Westminster Abbey, while seventeen months later a marble bust of him was placed, with much ceremony, in St. Paul's Cathedral. Not long after his death his widow was raised to the peerage.

That the biography of such a man should be written is what he himself expected; indeed, he gave expression to his thoughts on the subject when addressing the Dominion House of Commons on May 3rd, 1872. Shortly before his death he nominated Mr. Joseph Pope to be his biographer, telling his wife that "he knows more about me than any one else." Accordingly, Baroness Macdonald asked Mr. Pope "as a personal favour to undertake the work," and, when he consented, all the available materials were placed at his disposal. The two large volumes now published represent the results of Mr. Pope's labour. He is, we believe, a very able member of the Canadian Bar; but as a biographer he stands in the relation to the masters of the craft that the painter of a signboard stands to Reynolds or Gainsborough. Nothing is really more difficult than to write a good biography, and nothing in literature is undertaken with a lighter heart by those who have not a single qualification for the task. Mr. Pope was Sir John Macdonald's private secretary for several years. Bishop Tomline was William Pitt's tutor, and wrote the worst biography of him out of many which are rightly labelled worthless. Mr. Trotter was private secretary to Charles James Fox, yet Trotter's account of his chief tells little that is worth knowing, and less that is worth remembering. The great difficulty in depicting a statesman's life consists in the due apportionment of the part which is personal and

that which is historic. Sir John Macdonald held a conspicuous place among the makers of the annals of modern Canada, and his conduct and capacity in this respect should engage the historian's attention. His biographer's duty is to occupy himself with the man, and to represent to those who know him by name only what manner of man he was. In this Mr. Pope has completely failed. Readers who are unversed in Canadian politics, and who desire to learn the personal character and achievements of one with whose name they are familiar, but with whom they have no personal acquaintance, must find it difficult, if not repugnant, to plod through the pages in which Mr. Pope descants upon superannuated politics, and which he fills with documents that would have been in their right place in a Blue-book. He has missed a great opportunity.

No doubt the two volumes contain masses of facts which have their value, and, when properly dealt with, will prove to be fraught with instruction. The men who have made their mark in Canada are either French by descent or Scotch by birth. Sir John Macdonald was born in Glasgow on the 11th of January, 1815. His grandfather was a native of Dornoch, a small town on the north-east coast of Scotland, where, according to Mr. Pope, he was a merchant. In Scotland, as in France, a merchant is what in England would be called a shopkeeper. What kind of shop Sir John's grandfather kept, Mr. Pope does not say. His second son, Hugh, went to Glasgow on coming of age, and entered into partnership with a Mr. McPhail as a cotton manufacturer. His business did not prosper, and in 1820, five years after the birth of his most distinguished son, he emigrated to Canada, and settled in Kingston, a town of which Sir John was the representative—first in the Legislative Assembly and next in the Parliament of Canada—from 1844 till his death in 1891.

If Mr. Pope had written in the capacity of a biographer rather than in that of a politician who is also a partisan, he would have displayed greater fairness in his references to George Brown, who was the most powerful opponent of his hero—a man who has also left an indelible mark in Canadian history, who was born in Edinburgh three years before Sir John was born in Glasgow, who left Edinburgh with his father for America in 1838, who made his home in Toronto in 1843 and founded the *Toronto Globe* in 1844, a journal which has played a conspicuous part in Canadian affairs. Mr. Brown was the frequent antagonist of Sir John, but now that the grave has closed over the heads of both Mr. Pope might have treated Mr. Brown with less rancour. The references which he makes to him are both misleading and in bad taste, and the reader who is unacquainted with Mr. Brown's career and services to his adopted country will form a wrong notion of both, if he accept Mr. Pope as an authority. It has been said that there are more politics to the square yard in Canada than in any other part of the British empire. The two parties of which Sir John Macdonald and George Brown were the chiefs hated each other with all the hatred which the Christians displayed towards the Jews in the Ages of

Faith, and which politicians whose views do not agree often exhibit in this century of enlightenment. In the fight for supremacy Sir John was the victor. Mr. Pope slurs over one part of the contest in which the humiliation of George Brown was brought about in a way that the judicial historian will pronounce to have been unjustifiable. In July, 1858, he was summoned by Sir Edmund Head, then Governor-General of Canada, to form an administration, consequent on the defeat which he had inflicted on the Government. He accepted the task, but he held office for two days only, because the Governor-General would not accede to his request for a dissolution. Mr. Pope writes that at this period "the character of Mr. Brown displayed itself in its true light." He eulogizes the conduct of his hero, without pointing out, as a sensible biographer would have done, that it is more than doubtful whether the course actually followed was wholly honourable. He writes, indeed, as a barrister holding a brief for his client, keeping back what tells against him, enlarging on what can be alleged in his favour. This is not the attitude, we repeat, of a biographer who understands his responsibilities.

What gave Sir John Macdonald a place far higher than he could have attained as a successful colonial politician was the statesmanlike grasp and skill with which he brought together the provinces of Canada into a great dominion, extended the boundary of the Dominion from the United States frontier to the North Pole and from Lake Superior to the Pacific Ocean, and afterwards linked them together by the iron road which runs from the city of Halifax to the city of Vancouver. "These are imperial works and worthy kings." In executing them he had George Brown's co-operation and hearty support, and the reader of these volumes has greater pleasure in learning how Canadians worked in common for the general good than how they squabbled with, misunderstood, and misrepresented each other. The power which Sir John exercised over his fellows was largely due to the charm of his individuality; for while he was not a great orator, he had the gift of attracting men and the art of shaping them to his purpose. Mr. Pope writes:—

"Though always effective in debate, Sir John Macdonald lacked many of the qualifications of an orator. His voice, while pleasant, was not strong, nor remarkably distinct; and a slightly hesitating manner, which disappeared under the influence of excitement, rather impeded the flow of his ideas. He rarely prepared his speeches, preferring the impromptu semi-conversational style of the English House of Commons, to the more studied methods to which we are accustomed. Yet, while he could not be called a great speaker, there was no place in which he showed to more advantage, or was more at home, than in the House of Commons, where his lightest utterances always commanded universal attention."

In thus writing Mr. Pope does not overflatter his hero, nor does his obvious aversion to George Brown as a politician lead him astray when estimating his oratorical powers as follows:—

"Possessing no graces of diction, lacking almost every quality which constitutes true oratory, destitute of humour or sarcasm, George

Brown, by the very fact of his intense vehemence of expression, and by the air of deep conviction which clothed his every utterance, obtained from the outset the ear of the Chamber, and before long came to be recognized as one of the most effective speakers in Parliament."

Writing of him ten years later, he quotes an anonymous Liberal politician to this effect:

"What Mr. Brown lacked in argument, he made up in acting, rant, and physical gyrations with his arms, head, and long legs. The attitudes of the conqueror were absurd in the extreme. They cannot be described—perhaps at some future meeting I shall be able to give you an idea of the strut and style of Brown in the character of 'I am monarch of all I survey.'"

This is as childish as it is discreditable to Mr. Pope. He does not see that what would be effective in an electioneering pamphlet or a squib is offensive when set forth in a grave biography. He repeats at second hand, and with the incorrectness of those who do not take the trouble to verify their references, that Lord Durham's report on Canada "is a monument no less to his powers of observation and analysis, than to the clearness and vigour of his literary style." He could easily have ascertained that the author of the report which he commends was Charles Buller, two paragraphs excepted, which were contributed by Gibbon Wakefield and R. D. Hanson.

Though the story of Sir John Macdonald's mission to Washington in 1871, as member of an Imperial Commission, might have been condensed with advantage, it contains many things which will reward the reader who goes through it carefully. Sir John records instances of ignorance on the part of the American Commissioners which we should reject as incredible, if they were not capable of confirmation from independent and trustworthy sources. For instance, he complained to his colleagues at Ottawa that the Imperial Commissioners could not make the representatives of America

"believe or understand that the Imperial Government has no dispensing power, as a paramount authority, which would override any action of the Canadians. When Lord de Grey tells them that England is not a despotic power, and cannot control the Canadian Parliament when it acts within its legitimate jurisdiction, they pooh-pooh it altogether."

General Sherman wrote to his brother at an earlier date a letter in which he stated that England governed her colonies absolutely, and it is improbable that the mass of the citizens of the United States are better informed on this head than Sherman or Mr. Fish, who was Secretary of State when Sir John Macdonald was a Commissioner at Washington.

Though this work is neither an artistic biography nor a piece of contemporary history, it has its value as the record of achievements that have given Canada a conspicuous place in the world. The failure of a biographer is too common an incident to be remarkable, and it is almost superfluous to say that Mr. Pope has not that gift of style which would redeem his pages from being commonplace in form and expression. The drawback which is least excusable is his intense partisanship. The late Sir John Macdonald never made any pretensions to infallibility. No doubt he had many weaknesses: but he was a master of the game of politics, and he enjoyed

playing it so thoroughly that he could give an opponent credit for a dexterous move and envy him. An adequate biography would be a worthier monument than any which has yet been erected to commemorate his services to the Canada which he loved and served with unsurpassed devotion.

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IN a vignette devoted to Roubillac, Mr. Dobson characterizes that sculptor as "an eighteenth century realist":—

"He delighted in the seizure of fugitive expression, the fixing of momentary gesture, the indication of moods of mind, the ingenious reproduction of costume, detail, surface, texture. He copies the marks of small-pox, the traces of ancient scars, the clocks of a stocking, the petty folds and trivial wrinkles of material."

Mr. Dobson has himself an eye for all these things as keen as Roubillac's; like the sculptor, he delights in them and in reproducing them; but, unlike Roubillac, he knows how to make a picture of them, in which, while no detail is lost, none is allowed more than its due share of prominence. However incongruous or heterogeneous the materials, one turn of Mr. Dobson's kaleidoscope sets them in harmonious order. He is in vital and vitalizing sympathy with "the Little Masters," for he is one of themselves. The eighteenth century lives in his pages, as in the canvases of Hogarth, of the Canaletti, of Watteau; made truly alive again by virtue of an artistic touch which strikes the happy mean between the better qualities of realism, photography, and idealism. To the mass of readers whose leisure is insufficient to the delight of wandering by themselves among the streets and byways, the salons, and the parterres of Walpole's 'Letters' and the *mémoires*, Mr. Dobson is the most perfect of guides. There is no one else who knows his *terrain* so thoroughly, none whose imagination is so fully under the control of his facts, none who can make the facts yield so picturesquely to the reader's eye the latent colour which constitutes their true value.

The opening passage of 'The Journal to Stella' is as good a specimen of Mr. Dobson's peculiar skill as could be selected:—

"A dim light was burning in the back room of a first-floor in Bury Street, St. James's. The apartment it irradiated was not an extensive one; and the furniture, sufficient rather than sumptuous, had that indefinable lack of physiognomy which only lodging-house furniture seems to possess. There was no fireplace; but in the adjoining parlour, partly visible through the open door, the last embers were dying in a grate from which the larger pieces of coal had been carefully lifted out and ranged in order on the hob. Across the heavy high-backed chairs in the bed-room lay various neatly-folded garments, one of which was the black gown with pudding sleeves commonly worn in public by the eighteenth-century divine, while at the bottom of the bed hung a clerical-looking periwig. In the bed itself, and leaning towards a tall wax candle at his side (which, from a faint smell of siaged woollen still lingering about the chamber, must recently have come in contact with the now tucked-back bed-curtain), was a gentleman of forty or thereabouts, writing in a very small hand upon a very large sheet of paper, folded, for greater convenience, into one long horizontal slip. He had dark, fierce-looking eyebrows,

an aquiline nose, full-lidded and rather prominent clear blue eyes, a firmly-cut, handsome mouth, and a wide, massive forehead, the extent of which was, for the moment, abnormally exaggerated by the fact that, in the energy of composition, the fur-lined cap he had substituted for his wig had been slightly tilted backward. As his task proceeded his expression altered from time to time; now growing grave and stern, now inexpressibly soft and tender."

This miniature of the Swift of the re-touched Jervas painting—the Swift of the autumn of 1710, which witnessed the dawning of his most brilliant period, the Swift we best love to recall—leaves nothing to be desired. Every detail contributes to verisimilitude and harmony.

One of the brightest and freshest of the "vignettes" deals with an artist forgotten by all but a few collectors—Chodowiecki, who has been called "the Berlin Hogarth." Mr. Dobson's adoption of the audacious characterization, and without inverted commas, causes the reader some not unnatural concern until he reaches the final paragraph, in which is pointed out the much virtue which lies in the qualifying epithet. Chodowiecki was the "German Hogarth," as Klopstock was the "German Milton," the likeness being superficial and the unlikeness essential; or if that distinction be thought to be a little unfair to Chodowiecki, Mr. Dobson would perhaps admit that although the two painters "rowed in the same boat," they rowed "with different sculls." Nevertheless the essay interests us in Chodowiecki, and no one who takes Mr. Dobson's advice, and spends a day in turning over the rich if not exhaustive collections of the German artist's plates in the British Museum, "with Engelmann's excellent catalogue in hand," will think his time wasted, or spend his time in vain regrets that Chodowiecki mirrored the life he saw around him in his own fashion and not in Hogarth's.

Freshness of treatment is Mr. Dobson's distinguishing quality. It is the result of a happy combination of an exhaustive acquaintance with the best that is to be known on the subject, and imaginative insight, which if not genius is almost as rare as the mysterious something which goes by that name. 'Richardson at Home' and 'Ranelagh' come from Mr. Dobson's renovating pen as fresh as the "auld claes" transformed by the deft hands of Burns's cottar's wife. He does not irritate, after the manner of the superior person, by denying true taste to the man who cannot read and for ever reread his favourite author; he allows frankly that "there is a length of tedium as well as a length of time" which forbids the indulgence of much rereading even to the lover and champion of Richardson; that the masterpieces are not merely long, but "deplorably diffuse, copious, long-winded, circumstantial." But he checks the scoffing Philister by showing how the very length is of the essence of Richardson's power, the mere accident of his calculated infinitude of detail, in which lurks the strength of his method; how a moderate amount of persistence in the reader will infallibly interest him in what has created that "little aversion" which is so often the unsuspected beginning of love; and, finally, how potent the truth of his view has been rendered by the helpless

failure of all attempts to concentrate Richardson's "diffuseness" by mechanical curtailment. It is not, of course, for the first or the tenth time that these considerations have been put forward, nor is the essay the most exhaustive of the estimates of Richardson which we possess; but the man and his work and his surroundings, the influences which moulded him and the influence he exercised, are here made into a picture which will enable many to realize a figure hitherto nebulous for them, and will seduce them into a course of Richardson more surely than any flamboyant eulogy.

The most novel figure in Mr. Dobson's gallery is Lady Mary Coke, "until a year or two ago little more than a wandering name. Scott's references to her as a girl [in 'The Heart of Midlothian'] and a few passages in Walpole's 'Letters,' Swinburne's 'Courts of Europe,' and the like, made up the sum of the record." The scanty memorials have been amplified to a well-nigh embarrassing richness by the recent private printing of Lady Mary Coke's 'Letters and Journals,' prefaced by an account of her family—she was the youngest daughter of Pope's Argyll, "born alike to shake the senate and the field"—from the pen of the Lady Louisa Stuart whose letters to Scott are the gems of the Wizard's recently published correspondence. Mr. Dobson tantalizes his readers by calling this preface Lady Louisa's masterpiece, for he quotes from it only a sentence or two. But he outlines the story of Lady Mary in his best manner, and as the literary quality of her diaries and letters is distinctly unworthy of her general cleverness, the average reader will, not improbably, carry away from Mr. Dobson's pages a clearer and more impressive notion of the diarist than he could gain by wading through the whole of the raw material:—

"With many definite good qualities, as sincerity, honour, good-nature, and some measure of generosity, 'her understanding [in the uncompromising words of her biographer] lay smothered under so much pride, self-conceit, prejudice, obstinacy, and violence of temper, that you knew not where to look for it, and seldom, indeed, did you catch such a distinct view of it as certified its existence.' This is a sweeping indictment, to which it is further added that 'nothing ever happened to her after the fashion of ordinary life.'"

As this remarkable person made a mess of her life in the finest of company, the attractions of Mr. Dobson's narrative need no other recommendation to the curious reader. Its closing sentences are worthy of quotation:—

"She lingered into the second decade of the present century, an old, lonely, unhappy woman, dying at last in a dull little villa at Chiswick, long since absorbed in the grounds of Chiswick House. Fantastic to the end, she is reported to have insisted on quitting this vale of tears 'with a high-crowned beaver hat upon her head.'"

Another quaint figure is vignettised in 'The Prisoner's Chaplain'—not to be confounded with 'The Chaplain of the Fleet,' one of the successes of Mr. Besant, to whom this volume is gracefully dedicated. Mr. Dobson's chaplain is a certain painful Silas Told, of whose experiences a shabby little volume was published for edification about

a century ago in Cree-Church Lane. The only enduring interest of the worthy Silas lies in Mr. Dobson's recognition of him as the lank-haired volunteer chaplain who accompanies Hogarth's Idle Apprentice on the final journey to Tyburn.

An incidental attraction of the 'Vignettes' is the use that may be made of the volume as a guide to places of literary and historic interest within the circle of Greater London. Only one of the papers is designed to this end—'The Topography of Humphry Clinker'—but most of the others are also invaluable in this respect. The fashionable dinginess of Bury Street, St. James's, is illuminated by the paper on Swift; Pall Mall Place by that on 'Tully's Head'—the sign which distinguished Dodsley's shop; the tranquil purlieus of Salisbury Square and the stuccoed wastes of West Kensington and Parson's Green by that on Richardson; "Little Roubillac" may be seen turning into Peter's Court from St. Martin's Lane; while the shabbiness of Soho Square and the forbidding respectability of Albemarle Street are brightened by the liveries of the *gens* of the Duc de Nivernais's embassy.

Gustavus III. and his Contemporaries. By R. Nisbet Bain. 2 vols. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

If we accepted Sir John Seeley's view of history that it is nothing more than political philosophy teaching by examples, then the history of small states would have as much interest for us as the history of great ones. We do adopt that standpoint, it is to be observed, more or less in dealing with ancient history. But not many people can be persuaded to take a keen interest in what went on even as recently as the end of the last century in countries which have at present scarcely any weight in the body politic of Europe. It is for this reason that the reign of Gustavus III. of Sweden has remained till now what Mr. Bain calls it, "an overlooked chapter in eighteenth century history"—overlooked, that is, by England and by Europe at large, for Gustavus's life has been handled by several Swedish historians, though too often in the spirit of the partisan. Few reigns afford in themselves more food for narrative than this, which contains two revolutions, and a war which, if not of the first importance, was tedious and destructive to both the parties engaged; which carries us through all the intrigues of Gustavus for the suppression of the French Revolution; and which ends with the assassination of the king. Over this last event is cast the added gloom that with Gustavus III. may be said to end the kingdom of the Vasa family—that strange race whose character and fortunes have so much in them that recalls the Saga kings and heroes—with which dies out the ancient glory of Sweden.

The real King of Sweden, so far as there was one, who preceded Gustavus III. was his mother, the celebrated Louisa Ulrica, the sister of Frederick the Great. But, in fact, the country during the nominal reign of her husband Adolphus Frederick was rather an aristocratic republic than a monarchy. After the death of Charles XII., a famous, but expensive monarch, the feeling of the country had swung round

violently against absolutism, and until the year 1772, when Gustavus effected his first *coup d'état*, the only political question of real importance was which of two parties was to hold the reins of government—the "Caps," the peace party, or the war party, the "Hats." In the last century it was a point of honour with every leading European power to have a hand in the affairs of nations which were not what we should now consider within their sphere of influence. And thus it was that the two parties in the state of Sweden really represented the interests of two conflicting European powers: the "Caps" were the party of Russia, the "Hats" the party of France. This at least was the state of things when Gustavus first began to concern himself with public affairs. His first public act was the part he played as spokesman for his father in a sort of lesser *coup d'état*, when Adolphus Frederick resigned the crown of Sweden, and during seven days left the country without a head, because the aristocratic governing body, the Raad or Council, refused to convoke the estates of the realm. This act brought about the downfall of the "Caps." It had been arranged with the "Hat" leaders, that when they came into power the constitution of 1720, in virtue of which the monarchy became not less limited than that which exists in England at the present moment, should be revised. But this promise the "Hats" refused to fulfil. It was not until 1772, in the second year of his own reign, that Gustavus III., by his first *coup d'état*, wrought an effective change in the constitution of Sweden, and once more restored to the monarchy some of its forfeited power. The two chapters which Mr. Bain has devoted to an account of the preparations for and the execution of this stroke are among the best in his volumes. Not only was the change in the constitution in itself a matter of supreme importance to Sweden, but it was further the occasion of bringing to the front several men who, for good and evil, were destined to play a great part in their country's history. Among these were the two Sprengtportens, who lived to be utterly estranged to Gustavus—the younger to turn traitor to his country, and enter the service of Russia—and the still more famous Toll, who to the end was Gustavus's ablest and most faithful servant—though he was shamefully betrayed by his master—and probably the greatest Swede of his time.

It was reckoned by Gustavus's contemporaries a great concession to the liberal ideas of the age that, after his successful stroke for power, the king left the country a constitution. That constitution was much the same as the one which existed *de facto* in England at the time of the summoning of the Short Parliament. The elections were free; supplies were voted by the estates; and the interval which might be suffered to elapse between the dissolution of one parliament and the summoning of its successor lay in the discretion of the king. There can be no question that Gustavus's *coup d'état* was popular at the time, thanks entirely to the corruption which had distinguished both the great parties in the State, the "Hats" and the "Caps," and the contemptible position

to which Sweden had fallen among the powers of Europe. The new constitution worked just so long as the parliaments were amenable to Gustavus's influence. After a lapse of fourteen years a Riksdag was elected which was preponderantly hostile to the king, and thereupon the latter, who never allowed himself to be thwarted in the cardinal points of his policy, although on minor matters he knew how to give way gracefully, began to prepare for another stroke for power, that of 1789. By this second revolution, which occurred so strangely a few months before the quite opposite one broke out in France, Gustavus rose to an almost absolute autocracy on the ruins of the power of the noble class, who were henceforth reduced to a level with the members of the other three estates. It was this last measure which reconciled the body of the people to the change; this, in fact, is nearly always the history of the rise of an absolute monarchy. But the revolution of 1789 very nearly led to the ruin of Sweden a few months later, when, during the war with Russia, there was found to be such wide-spread disaffection among the officers of the army in Finland, they being of the noble class, that that army had practically to be abandoned to its own devices; whereupon it entered into negotiations with Catherine II., and conceived the project of erecting Finland into a separate state under the protection of Russia. The manner in which Gustavus averted this calamity and saved his kingdom, which appeared on the point of being overrun by an invasion from Denmark, forms the third great epoch in his reign. The last period of it is that in which his mind was altogether absorbed by his efforts to league the powers of Europe against revolutionary France. It is in connexion with this part of his career that the name of Gustavus III. is most familiar to students of general history; to many probably he is only known in this connexion and for his dramatic death, when the party of the *noblesse* paid back at length their debt of vengeance for the loss of their privileges in 1789, and Ankarström, their representative, shot the king in the Opera-house in Stockholm. Gustavus was only forty-five when he died, and he had reigned twenty-one years. As Mr. Bain says:—

"The political importance of Sweden died with him. His immediate successors were his bitter enemies; and they hastened, with indecent alacrity, to reverse his policy, both at home and abroad, and traverse all his plans, not because they were bad, but because they were his. During the subsequent rule of his infatuated son, Sweden lost, swiftly and irretrievably, the last remnants of her ultramarine possessions, and henceforth ceased for all practical purposes to be a Continental Power. What might have happened if her last great monarch had retained the sceptre for another decade it is idle to conjecture; but we may reasonably assume that his political sagacity and his diplomatic *savoir faire* would not have fished in vain amidst the troubled waters of European politics. Sweden, in that case, would still, perhaps, have remained a formidable, and Poland a respectable Power, and the map of Europe at the present moment might not be quite the same as we know it."

To the curious reader of history and to the student of character there are a hundred points of attraction and of interest in

the career of this remarkable man; to all such Mr. Bain's book, breaking as it does what may be called virgin soil, will be welcome. To the student of political philosophy the most important parts of Gustavus's reign are the two revolutions. But if he is to estimate quite judiciously Gustavus's conduct in these matters, he will not be able to see eye to eye with Gustavus's present biographer. Perhaps the only fault that can fairly be found with Mr. Bain's book is that it is written more in the spirit of a biography than of history. It is not utterly free from that biographer's disease which Macaulay denominated "*lues boswelliana*." Mr. Bain does not always show an alertness in appreciating the aspect which political affairs must have worn to those who were contemporary with them. Previous to the *coup d'état* of 1772 he assumes without discussion that the constitution of 1720, which left the monarch little more than a nominal power—made him an ornamental figurehead of the ship of State and little more—was utterly indefensible. "The question was," he says, "whether Sweden was to be governed by a king or by a name-stamp." He does not perceive that the position of the monarch in the Swedish constitution of 1720 differed in no essential particular from the position of our hereditary monarchy at the present moment. We hardly suppose that Mr. Bain would think the Prince of Wales justified in attempting a *coup d'état*. No doubt the Swedish parties in the State were both exceedingly corrupt. But a believer in constitutional government may be allowed to think that they might have been purified or have purified themselves without the drastic remedy of revolution. The second revolution brought about by Gustavus was very much what might have been effected by a more courageous Charles Stuart had he listened to the advice of Strafford. Toll may stand for the Strafford of Sweden. Now we know that Charles I.'s army hesitated to support him against a so-called rebel army in Scotland. Can we reasonably doubt that if Charles had carried out the policy of "Thorough," and after that had found himself engaged in a foreign war, there would have been seen a like spirit of insubordination among his officers and men? Wherefore the "treachery" of Gustavus's officers in Finland is not so indefensible as Mr. Bain seems to suppose. In one place our author grows eloquent in denouncing the "*monstrous accord* or compensation system" which existed in the Swedish army until this was reformed by Gustavus; but he does not see that this *accord* system was almost identical with the purchase system which obtained in our army till the other day, and under which the Peninsular War was carried on and Waterloo won. In matters such as these and in its total want of picturesque description—so far as we remember there is only one sentence in the two volumes which might not have been written by a person who had never been in Sweden—the book savours somewhat too much of the cabinet and the lamp. But it is for all that a notable addition to our historical literature, and one which all students will welcome cordially. At the end of the second volume comes an appendix which gives a summary of the history of Swedish literature, not merely of

the literature of the reign of Gustavus III. It is too short to be more than a concise *résumé*, and to our thinking is hardly appropriate to the place and the occasion.

Some Account of Parish Clerks, more especially of the Ancient Fraternity (Bretherne and Sisterne) of St. Nicholas, now known as the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks. Compiled for the Company by James Christie. (Privately printed.)

It is not fair to criticize a privately printed book in the same manner as one that is intended for the use of the general public. Mr. Christie's volume is obviously intended for the information of members of the company—perhaps for them only. Had it been meant for the instruction of the world at large, we should have had several faults to find, but such criticism would be out of place when dealing with a privately printed volume.

The word "clerk" has many significations only, some of which are noticed by Mr. Christie. To have dealt with them all in an efficient way would have required a volume much larger than the one before us. The greater part of the old meanings have perished or are now only known by students of our old literature, but the lawyer's clerk and the parish clerk are still familiar beings. Concerning the former there is no need to speak, but the latter has held no unimportant position from the time that England became Protestant. The period when the parish clerk had the greatest importance was during the last century and the first thirty-five years of that which is now near its end. Though "*The Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks*" is a survival of the Guild of St. Nicholas, it would appear that the parish clerk was not so important a person in the metropolis or the other large towns of the kingdom as he was in the rural districts. In the days when pluralities were regarded not only with tolerance, but in many cases with approval, the parish clerk became a great man. The clergyman who performed the Sunday duty could reside in only one of his four or five cures, so if there were no squire resident in the place to overshadow all ecclesiastical authority the clerk was a considerable personage. From the nature of his functions it was necessary that he should be able to read, and to write and spell in a manner not unintelligible. He usually kept the parish accounts; took care, according to his lights, that parish meetings were held in a legal fashion; and was wont to give out notices in church, such as were forwarded to him by the justices of the peace and the drainage commissioners. In those parts of the country where there were wide stretches of unenclosed land, it was one of his functions to proclaim strayed cattle during or immediately after divine service. There are some few instances on record—perhaps, indeed, within human memory—of women discharging the duties of parish clerk, but this was always looked upon as an irregularity, for which apology was needed. The old feeling survived, though probably no one could have explained it, that there was something of an ecclesiastical nature in the office which rendered women unsuitable for it. This was especially the case where

the clergy were non-resident, for then, in case of danger of death, one of the clerk's duties was to christen new-born infants.

Tractarianism struck a blow at the dignity of the parish clerk from which he has never recovered. It had been the desire of the Reformers, when the Book of Common Prayer was compiled, that the people should join in the responses. Whether this ever grew to be the common practice we do not know. It had certainly died out at the beginning of this century. Here and there a man or woman—commonly suspected of Methodism—might be found, who followed the clerk in an audible voice; but this was looked upon as pretentiousness, and, as we have heard, was discouraged by the clergy of the old school. The Oxford movement changed this. The men who led opinion in the earlier stages of this ecclesiastical revolution were anxious that the Prayer Book should be obeyed to the letter. The consequence was that in many places half the congregation said the responses aloud, and thus the function of the parish clerk became obscured. In remote villages it is said that he was regarded as unnecessary, and when the office became vacant it was not filled up. Then as time went on the surpliced choir made its appearance. At first it was fought against by turbulent people, and looked upon coldly by high official persons, but has now established itself throughout the land. The old duet between parson and clerk yet exists as a survival, but may be regarded as virtually extinct.

Yet although the office is now shorn of much of its dignity, there are not many places where it has ceased to exist. In certain parishes there are duties which cannot be performed by the clergyman, but which must be discharged by some one, and it is found by experience that when the novelty has worn off, volunteer and unpaid labour is inefficient. In populous places, indeed, a great part of the time of the parish clerk must be taken up by his ecclesiastical duties.

We wish Mr. Christie had told his readers in detail what are the duties which the London parish clerks are called upon to fulfil. He might, too, have gathered from the literature of the Georgian time some scraps which would have enabled us to fill out the picture. Such information would have been far more useful than much of the early part of the volume, which deals with antiquarian matters on which, we must take the liberty of saying, Mr. Christie does not seem to be especially well informed. Quotations from Cardinal Bona, or even our own Lyndwood, are of much less value than incidental notices which are to be picked up in most unlikely places.

Without wishing to connect the pre-Reformation clerks with those of modern days, it is not uninteresting to note some of the actions which Mr. Christie has recorded of their mediæval namesakes. In 1496 it was the duty of the clerk to grant certificates as to banns of marriage, for in that year the clerk of St. Mildred's, Poultry, certified that the banns of a certain couple who wished to be married had been proclaimed three times, when, in truth, this had only occurred on two occasions. As the marriage had taken place without dispensation, its validity was doubtful. Six years after this the clerk of St. Clement's, East-

cheap, seems not to have realized the respect due to the clerical order, for he told the curate of the parish that he was a fool, and bid him set a cock's comb on his crown. At about the same time the clerks of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, were required to "be ready every Sunday, after Matins be said, to order water and salt, and to cut the holy loaf." A note should have been added here pointing out that the "holy loaf" has reference to the *Eulogia* or holy bread, not to the elements prepared for the Holy Eucharist. The matter is simple enough, but it is one wherein mistakes are of constant occurrence.

The many changes which took place in social and domestic life consequent on the Reformation are well known; we did not know, however, until Mr. Christie drew our attention to it, that armorial bearings suffered any change at that time. In 1582 it seems that the Company of Parish Clerks became conscious that the old coat which they had borne for a century was "much charged with certain superstitions devysed contrary to the laudable and commendable manner of bearing arms," and consequently they applied for and procured a new one. We do not find that the blazonry of the old bearing is anywhere given. It would be interesting to know what it was which so shocked the sensibilities of these Elizabethan clerks.

NEW NOVELS.

In the Year of Jubilee. By George Gissing. 3 vols. (Lawrence & Bullen.)

THE suburbs owe a debt to Mr. George Gissing, who has vindicated them triumphantly in his latest novel from the cheap sneers of the superior modern journalist. For although the life which he describes in his usual uncompromising fashion is generally unlovely and often hideous, it is full of human interest, and rises at times to a genuinely tragic level. 'In the Year of Jubilee'—the title is solely derived from the date at which the story begins—is a plain unvarnished tale of middle-class life, in which the modern spirit of revolt is illustrated in half a dozen different types. Nothing, at first sight, could be more unpromising than the materials selected; none the less the book is of absorbing interest, and—with the exception of the sole personage who does not belong to the *bourgeois* stratum, Lionel Tarrant, whose preposterous views on the married state are developed with fatiguing iteration—singularly convincing in its presentment of human nature. Apart from the somewhat shadowy figure of the faithful domestic servant, the only character which makes any real or successful appeal to the sympathies of the reader is that of the heroine, whom, in spite of her hasty self-surrender, and of her acquiescence in a long course of systematic deception, it is impossible to help respecting for her unflinching courage amid her many trials. Much of the book is painful reading, notably that which deals with the squalid squabbles of the Peachey household, and the effects, as exemplified in the person of an hysterical governess, of "charlatan education operating upon crude character." Still here and there the reader encounters a gleam of wintry sunshine, and, in

the issue, possibilities of repose and even of happiness are opened up to the sorely tried heroine. The impressiveness of this remarkable book is greatly enhanced by the admirable style in which it is written—always direct, forcible, and free from mannerism.

Penhala: a Wayside Wizard. By Clara Lemore. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE method adopted by the author of 'Penhala' for enlisting the interest of her readers in the central figure of her romance is not exactly new, but it has seldom been practised in such thoroughgoing fashion. The hero lays himself open to a charge of murder at the outset of his career, and, though he escapes by flight, is subsequently punished for assuming the brilliantly original *alias* of John Smith, by rendering himself liable to the further charge of bigamy. By this time, it must be owned, he has developed into an operative tenor, and operative tenors are, *ex hypothesi*, capable of anything. Apart from this consideration it is impossible to feel much sympathy with the handsome, but invertebrate hero of this kaleidoscopic melodrama. The action is spread over twenty years, and John Smith is ultimately rehabilitated. Profuse in artificial incident and coincidence, 'Penhala' is marked by a certain activity of invention and a consistent defiance of probability. There is, however, one admirable remark made by the heroine, after John Smith has called her "dear lady" four times in rapid succession: "No, I will not have you call me that." This transient gleam of sane criticism is almost the only oasis in three volumes of unintermittent unreality.

The Mask and the Man. By Percy Andraee. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

IN his new novel Mr. Andraee has laid his scene in the south of France, the period chosen being the eve of Waterloo. But if the names of the personages and the places were altered, the events might very well have happened in any European country any time within the last three or four hundred years. In other words, this wholesome, but tedious romance is lacking to quite an exceptional degree in the distinctive features of nationality and epoch which are involved in the author's choice. There is scarcely any local colour; the dialogue, though carefully written, hardly ever reflects the *finesse* or the grace of the French character; in short, the author rests his appeal to the public solely on narrative and motive. The former is at best mildly interesting, the latter only moderately convincing. There is a determined attempt at humour in the character of the braggart Jacques; but the delay in exposing his cowardice is protracted in a highly artificial manner.

An Altar of Earth. By Thymol Monk. "Pioneer Series." (Heinemann.)

THE motive of 'An Altar of Earth,' so far as it is decipherable, is quite exceptionally unpleasant. Of positive offence there is practically nothing; but the writer displays quite a remarkable talent for leaving all manner of morbid or uncomfortable surmises to the imagination of his reader. In the descriptive passages there is not a little

charm of style; the dialogue is not wanting in touches of humour. But, as a whole, the book only leaves an impression of inarticulate though bitter revolt. The bulldog Beelzebub is, perhaps, the most humane character among all the *dramatis personæ* of this neurotic novelette.

Majesty. By Louis Couperus. Translated by A. Teixeira de Mattos and Ernest Dowson. (Fisher Unwin.)

THERE have been many workers among novelists in the field of royal portraiture, but it may be safely stated that few of those who have essayed this dubious path have achieved more striking results than M. Couperus. '*Majesty*' is an extraordinarily vivid romance of autocratic imperialism, and the main aim of the book is so legitimate, and its treatment so sympathetic and artistic, that it is to be regretted that the author should have adopted the portrait form at all. The striking but superficial resemblance between the leading characters of the story and those of more than one reigning imperial house will, no doubt, prove a bait to readers hungry for personalities; but the real merits of the book—its dramatic intensity and powerful characterization—are entirely independent of this factitious interest. Foremost amongst the *dramatis personæ* is the Crown Prince Othomar, a truly tragic figure, with noble instincts hampered by a delicate constitution, a Hamlet-like irresoluteness of purpose, and hedged round on every side by Procrustean etiquette. The contrast between him and his bluff sailor cousin, Prince Herman of Gothland, and his devotion for his mother, the empress (a woman whose natural warmth of heart has been numbed and paralyzed by the atmosphere of terror and melancholy which girds the throne), are drawn with great skill, and in the latter case with exquisite tenderness. M. Couperus does not merely turn the search-light of his analysis on the domestic life of the Cæsars of to-day: he paints them also in their relations with courtiers and advisers; in their rare moments of contact with the masses; hurrying feverishly from function to function; strange, frozen, lonely figures, oppressed, in the words of the empress, with "the immeasurable melancholy of being rulers." The effect of the whole book is greatly heightened by M. Couperus's artistic use of contrast and his sense of humour. The letter of the little ten-year-old Prince Berengar, describing to his brother the ceremony of his appointment as a Knight of St. Ladislas, is not only charming in itself, but it forms a most admirable anticlimax to the passionate love scene which has gone before. It only remains to be added that the translation has been executed creditably rather than brilliantly.

L'Indomptée. Par J. H. Rosny. (Paris, Chailley.)

Les Morticoles. Par Léon Daudet. (Paris, Charpentier.)

THERE reached us lately at the same time two French novels of ability dealing with "the doctors." M. Rosny has already written many novels, none of which has, we believe, enjoyed much popularity; but '*L'Indomptée*' deserves success, for although in parts too much drawn out, it forms a power-

ful picture of the sufferings of a woman doctor in the Paris schools, and afterwards in what is termed by the French a hole of province.

Although the account of the hospital surgeons and professors of Paris given by M. Rosny is not altogether flattering, it may be pronounced favourable to the profession, which is shown to contain, as one would expect, the good and the bad. M. Daudet, with a family turn towards scandal, which is marked in the case of his uncle, and from which his father is not wholly free, has denounced the profession in a manner that has procured for his new book a circulation greatly exceeding the sale of all his others put together. The wicked are found who assert that M. Léon Daudet at one time wished to be a surgeon and suffered the not uncommon fate of being plucked. However this may be, '*Les Morticoles*' paints the medical profession in hideous colours, although it does so in a form which enables the author to say that his imaginary country has little connexion with France. It is impossible to read '*Les Morticoles*' without feeling that the author deliberately set out to do all that lay in his power to damage the Paris hospitals and medical schools, and he undoubtedly has succeeded in exciting a large amount of odium against the profession. The crimes of here and there a "butcher" are laid at the door of virtually the whole profession, and, out of the vast mass of hospitals and schools depicted, but one surgeon and one physician and one assistant of each of these two find grace in M. Daudet's eyes. We can strongly recommend to our readers M. Rosny's book; but M. Léon Daudet's is one for all to shun who are not gifted with the strongest nerves and stomachs.

CONCORDANCES.

A Complete Concordance to the Dramatic Works of Shakespeare, with a Supplementary Concordance to the Poems. By John Bartlett, A.M. (Macmillan & Co.)

A Concordance to the Poetical Works of John Milton. By John Bradshaw, LL.D. (Sonenschein & Co.)

THE only serious drawback from the new and full concordance to Shakespeare which we owe to Mr. Bartlett consists in its size and weight, and the consequent difficulty of reference. As these things belong to the scheme of the book, and affect equally such works as, say, the 'New English Dictionary,' and as they could only be remedied at a cost prohibitive of the success of the undertaking, it would be ungracious to insist upon them. Nevertheless one can but feel that while in a large public library, where a table can be specially devoted to it, the book is comfortably at home, it constitutes, in a moderately sized and fairly crowded room, a somewhat cumbrous volume with which to deal. It contains close upon two thousand quarto pages, all in double columns. Upon existing concordances to Shakespeare it is naturally an immeasurable advance. Until the appearance of Mrs. Cowden Clarke's concordance, students had to rely upon their memories, since Ayscough's index was worse than useless. Many as are the shortcomings of Mrs. Clarke, driving the closest students to use in preference Schmidt's '*Shakespeare Lexicon*,' hers is a work of monumental labour. It does not include the poems, a concordance to which was first issued in 1875 by the late Mrs. Horace Howard Furness, as a part of her husband's American "*Variorum*"

edition. It fails, moreover (and herein is its signal defect), to state the number of the line, an omission which frequently involves those consulting it in a laborious search. The quotations are, as a rule, short, consisting constantly of four and sometimes of only three words. Add to this that the type is small, and the necessity of a new concordance is patent. This, as the result of eighteen years' labour, now reaches us. The more obvious defects of his predecessors Mr. Bartlett has remedied. He has not, like Mrs. Furness, been so ultra-conscientious as to give every word in his author, even when it consists of "a," "an," or "the," a course possible in a volume dealing with the poems only, but inconceivable in the case of the plays; and he has given the number of the lines from the "*Globe*" edition of 1891, which supplies a good text and is easily procurable. There are those who might have preferred the '*Oxford Shakespeare*,' which, however, was not in existence when Mr. Bartlett's task was begun. At the choice of an edition it is, then, impossible to cavil, and for those even who prefer to rely upon any other edition, the numeration of the lines at least simplifies reference. The length of the passages quoted averages a line and a half. In the case of words such as "to be," "to do," &c., selected instances are given. Under "Be," thus we find in '*The Merry Wives of Windsor*' Slender's query, "Why do your dogs bark so? be there bears i' the town?" The speech a few lines earlier of the same character, "A justice of peace sometime may be beholding to his friend for a man," does not appear. Six lines are assigned under 'Macbeth' to "do"; these deal with the word in sentences such as "I'll do, I'll do, and I'll do." When Macbeth demands, "Do you not hope your children shall be kings?" it is not given. Continuous use alone can prove whether the volume is wholly accurate. It is an unquestionable boon to English scholarship, and a result which in these days we should rather have expected from co-operative labour than from individual industry and zeal.

For the basis of his '*Concordance to Milton*' the late Dr. Bradshaw took the previously existing concordance of Mr. Lushington Prendergast, published at Madras in 1857. This was in few hands, and most lovers of Milton had to trust to the wretched *index verborum* of Dr. Cleveland put forward with the presumptuous title of '*A Complete Concordance to the Poetical Works of John Milton*.' Dr. Bradshaw has improved upon the previous work and has supplied a useful and trustworthy concordance. Some shortcomings due to his premature death call, however, for remedy. No list is given of the initials under which the poems appear. In the case of '*Paradise Lost*' or '*Samson Agonistes*' "P. L." or "S. A." is adequate. Such initials as "S. M." for '*At a Solemn Music*,' "M. M." for '*On May Morning*,' "F. of C." for the sonnet on the '*New Forcers of Conscience*,' are unfortunately perplexing. The last might almost as well stand for '*Fair Infant dying of a Cough*.' This omission detracts distinctly from the utility of the volume. Under "Alleys" we have "Cedared alleys, 'Comus.'" "Cedared," however, is not given, the right word "Cedarn" being supplied.

When all our fathers worshipped stocks and stones is under "Worship," though "worshipped" has a separate heading. In "Comus" under the head "None" *dues* is given as "due." These matters are of slight importance, but so far as they extend are blemishes. Among poets Shakespeare, Milton, Shelley, Burns, Pope, and Cowper have been provided with full concordances, and Tennyson with a concordance to a portion of his work. Wordsworth and Keats are among those who have hitherto made unsuccessful appeal. In the case of Wordsworth the long poems in blank verse constitute a difficulty which is absent in that of Keats.

BOOKS OF TRAVEL.

China to Peru over the Andes. With Numerous Illustrations. By Mrs. Howard Vincent. With Reports and Letters on British Interests in Brazil, Argentina, Chili, Peru, Panama, and Venezuela by Col. Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P. (Sampson Low & Co.)—It would, perhaps, be hypercritical to suggest that the above title of Mrs. Vincent's book is, geographically, startling. It is explained in the preface; but the work contains other inaccuracies and confusions, and defective orthography in various languages, which are less excusable, for besides being an enterprising and courageous traveller, Mrs. Vincent is a practised writer. She knows what to describe and what to omit; she is never flat or tedious, nor too egotistical. We should like then to accept unreservedly her guidance on these remote wanderings. We believe, generally speaking, that we may; but it is disquieting to read on the second page that the (volcanic) peak of Tenerife is a "rock peak"; that she saw it "rising out of a translucent grey range of mountains on the Island of Grand Canary" (here, perhaps, it is only the construction, and not the geography, which is a little mixed); and, finally, that Las Palmas is "another island of the Canary group." But these are only the records of a passing glimpse. In South America she is at home alike when describing a wayside scene and noting the salient points of social and political difference between the various republics, or, again, when painting—which she does with eloquence and enthusiasm—the glories of Andean mountain scenery. Here, too, the reader is free to admire her pluck and endurance, and not the less because she relates how, broken by fatigue, her nerve at last gave way, and she dismounted at a critical point in the descent, accomplishing the rest of the journey on foot. Among other places of interest she describes the deserted Panama Canal, with some 53,000,000*l.* of French savings sunk in it, and the famous nitrate fields of Peru, the latter, she tells us, "formed chiefly by decaying animal vegetation"; surely a mysterious as well as a valuable compound. Col. Vincent, always alive to the interests of British trade, reprints in an appendix some timely notes on South American politics and finance, and on the actual position of the Panama question.

Mr. T. R. Dewar, the author of *A Ramble round the World* (Chatto & Windus), having caught a severe cold whilst contesting a seat in the London County Council, was recommended to seek change of climate, and thereupon determined to see the world and, at the same time, to obtain additional customers for a well-known Perth distillery, of which he is the representative. He may be congratulated on having produced a book which, principally owing to the clever drawings by Mr. Wyllie, Sidney Cowell, and others, is likely to prove attractive to the consumers of Scotch whiskey. To fastidious readers the "travellers' fun" in which Mr. Dewar and his friends indulged may seem somewhat rough, but the excellent quality of the Perth mountain dew no doubt is accountable for the exuberance of their peculiar amusements. Thus, when homeward bound, on board the Sagalion steamer of the Messageries line, one of Mr. Dewar's colleagues amused his party by frightening some quiet Chinamen in a shop by springing into the air with demoniacal yells, whirling his umbrella, until they left their purchases and fled tumbling over one another, when "the ground seemed to be covered with a kicking, screaming, and struggling mass of Chinamen." At another time we learn how Mr. Dewar found himself "amongst what was politely termed 'the blackguard set.' Why this opprobrious epithet was applied to our party I am sure I don't know. Certainly if we saw a chance of having a bit of fun we availed ourselves of it, either on board or on shore." Elsewhere this

free-handed tourist relates how, at Colombo, he offered "a handful of sovereigns (about 40*l.*)" for a selected lot of jewels, and then, after much horse-play, sold by auction an American twenty-dollar piece to an excited crowd of Cingalese shopkeepers for just three times its value in rupees. After which most exquisite piece of humour our author and his friends "rowed off to the boat, having had the most rollicking time on shore that we had yet experienced." No doubt Mr. Dewar is the best judge of the style of amusement which is suited to the tastes of his clientele.

The little volume under the twofold title of *Safar Námeh* (Anglicè, "book of travel") and *Persian Pictures* (Bentley & Son) displays, notwithstanding its anonymous authorship, so true an appreciation of Eastern people and their surroundings, such power of describing the scenery and incidents of travel, and so much facility of literary expression that we may confidently welcome it as a guarantee for completer and more comprehensive work from the same hand. It is, however, rather indicative of the working of an intelligent and active mind in a new field of contemplation than of any impressions derived from long acquaintance with the chosen theme. The book is divided into twenty sections (or chapters), each of which might have been acceptable as an appropriate contribution to the periodical literature of the day. But while two-thirds of the "Pictures" are essentially Persian, the six concluding divisions relate to countries west of the Shah's territory. We are not enlightened on the personality of the author, nor the period or occasion of the journey or journeys described; and we miss a connecting link which would enable us to understand the order of the pictures presented to view. Constantinople, for instance, comes among the latest, as though visited on a homeward journey, but it might quite as well have appeared at the beginning. These little perplexities may have been purposely brought about to mystify the reader in a natural search for the identity of his pleasant *cicerone*—who, from evidence more than presumptive, should belong to the gentler sex. In the absence of preface, introduction, or preliminary note of any kind, some readers may consider them as defects. Of the *bonâ fide* Persian pictures, that headed "The Imâm Hussein" not only gives an unexaggerated description of native ways and ceremonies, but attaches also a criticism upon them which is, to say the least, just and sensible. Another chapter, entitled "The Shadow of Death," is remarkable because it portrays a fearful visitation of disease with singular vigour. Another, on "Dwellers in Tents," may also be cited for true and lively description. Of the six later chapters, two, treating of "The Month of Fasting" and the dead men's motto, "Requiescant in Pace," are more or less irrelevant as regards Persia, though comparison is suggested between its practices and those of the contiguous Mohammedan state; but there is just a *souppon* of Tehran, as of Tiflis and Constantinople, in "Shops and Shopkeepers." One extract may be given in conclusion. It is from an account of the outbreak of cholera in the Persian capital, under the above-noted heading of "The Shadow of Death":—

"Oriental fatalism, which sounds fine enough in theory, breaks down woefully in practice. It is mainly based upon the helplessness of a people to whom it has never occurred to take hold of life with vigorous hands. A wise philosophy bids men bear the inevitable evil without complaint, but we of the West are not content until we have discovered how far the coil is inevitable by forethought and by a more complete knowledge of its antecedents. It may be that we turn the channel of immediate fate but little, but with every effort we help forward the future safety of the world. But fatalism can seldom be carried through to its logical conclusions—the attitude of mind which prevented the Persians from laying in medical stores did not save them a fortnight later from

headlong flight. The most degrading of human passions is the fear of death. It tears away the restraints and the conventions which alone make social life possible to man; it reveals the brute in him which underlies them all. In the desperate hand-to-hand struggle for life there is no element of nobility. He who is engaged upon it throws aside honour, he throws aside self-respect, he throws aside all that would make victory worth having—he asks for nothing but bare life. The impalpable danger into whose arms he may at any moment be precipitating himself unawares tells more upon his nerves and upon his imagination than a meeting with the most redoubtable enemy in the open: his courage breaks under the strain. Such fear laid hold of the people of Tehran."

A travers la Russie boréale. Par Charles Rabot. (Hachette & Co.)—This volume more than maintains the reputation of the "Collection de Voyages illustrés." The writer, indeed, oppressed at times by the horrible monotony of the landscape, declares that it is only the population in Russia, not the land, that is worth seeing: "La Sibirie ne laisse aucun souvenir, rien qu'une impression d'ennui.....jamais un moment d'admiration.....jamais une sensation forte, vibrante, qui reste dans la mémoire comme un point lumineux." This may well be the case; but, *suave mari magno*—it is not only pleasant, but highly interesting and instructive to the geographer, to read this graphic account of the strange and unfamiliar physical conditions which prevail over such a vast region. It is in one respect even more valuable than the ethnographical portion of the book, inasmuch as it represents the author's own experience, whereas the other, though taken no doubt from the best sources, and everywhere checked and illustrated by the writer's own observations, is yet partly compilation. In passing through the province of Perm he recalls the time when this region was the *entrepôt* of an active commerce—when Arab merchants brought the wares of India and the South, to be passed on into Western Europe by the enterprising Scandinavians, and carried back the furs of the Northern wastes to the Court of Harun el Rashid. He brings before us with special clearness the absolute dependence of the country, as far as human intercourse is concerned, on its waterways, and not only on the great rivers, but on their tributary streams and backwaters, by which the traveller can pass from one river system to another. Sometimes a short portage is necessary, but the whole region on both sides of the Urals is an impassable morass, through which the river channels are the only means of communication. Often the landscape is a boundless expanse of water, broken only by half-solid islands formed of masses of floated timber which have grounded in the shallows, and the silt which these intercept. This timber, of which the amount is enormous, when stranded by the change of a river's course, is covered with a rapid growth of peat, perhaps a supply of coal for future ages. No wonder these conditions suggest to the writer the ages when the water and dry land were not yet separated; and when wading through such a morass to a village of primitive Ostiaks, he feels as if he had got back to the prehistoric lake dwellings. The whole country traversed by him is, as he describes it, a valuable field for ethnological study. From Kazan northwards is a mosaic of races—the vanished Bulgars, the Finns, Tatars, and Russians; and it seems strange in the Europe of to-day to find, side by side with the orthodox church, not only the mosque, but the sacred grove with its shamans, idols, and sacrifices. The peoples of Finnish origin in Northern Europe only number, he says, some four and a half millions, and they, like the Ostiaks across the Ural, must gradually suffer effacement by the encroaching Slav, to the great general detriment, the author avers, of the picturesque, as well as to the loss of many interesting race characteristics and curious old inherited arts. It is, however, satisfactory to know that local archaeological and other societies are alive to the interest of such questions and are preserving the records of what

is thus passing away. We read also of provincial exhibitions tending to develop local arts and industries. Indeed, much of the development of the country is due, M. Rabot tells us, to the initiative of enlightened individuals of the "peasant" class, from whom he received much timely help and hospitality. His book is full of interesting matter, and is the more valuable because, from his description of the unavoidable hardships and discomforts to be encountered, few travellers are likely to pass over the same ground. The absence of a good map is a very great disadvantage, as the peculiar nature of the journey cannot be properly studied or realized without constant reference to the waterways and the water partings.

In the preface to *Kangaroo and Kauri* (Sampson Low & Co.), Mr. J. K. Arthur tells the world that "it is the duty of every one visiting Australia, New Zealand, or other British colonies, to give to the people of England such reliable information as he or she may obtain there, on subjects as to which so many persons in Great Britain may in truth be said to be profoundly ignorant." The prospect is, indeed, appalling, more especially when the visitors have nothing to add to the information already before the "profoundly ignorant" Englishman. If there be one part of this work better worth reading than another, it is that about New Zealand. The most dreary portion is the appendix upon "Antipodean Humour and Pathos." Australia has not yet developed any peculiar type of humour, as has been the case with our Transatlantic cousins.

In *John Bull & Co.* (Warne & Co.) Madame Paul Blouët has produced a readable and accurate translation of Max O'Rell's most amusing volume, which deserves to be widely read in this country. Only once or twice have we noticed any slip in the English version. It is dangerous to render *professeur* by "professor" on all occasions.

A famous book that reminds us of the days when we were younger and there were peaks and passes still untrudged in Switzerland has appeared again after an absence from the shop windows of many years—Mr. Leslie Stephen's *Playground of Europe* (Longmans & Co.), one of the most charming volumes of what is styled Alpine literature, written when that literature was more scanty than it now is.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. publish a third part of *Papers and Addresses*, by Lord Brassey, being those relating mainly to the mercantile marine. They are edited by Capt. Eardley Wilmot, R.N., as was the first part, which dealt with naval matters. Appended to the excellent papers in the present volume is a letter to the *Times* on the new naval programme of shipbuilding, which, properly speaking, belongs to the naval papers, for which, however, it was too late.

Furth in Field, by "Hugh Haliburton" (Fisher Unwin), is a collection of thirty-one "essays on the life, language, and literature of Old Scotland." Four of them deal with Lochleven, five with James Thomson, seven with Burns, and the rest with such miscellaneous themes as Hogmanay, Hansel Monday, the Lotman, and poachers. They are not particularly memorable; still, we seem to remember some at least of them in the columns of a Scottish newspaper. If they were worth reprinting, they were worth more careful revision; as it is, they present a good many repetitions and inaccuracies. For instance, we are told on pp. 133, 140, and 148 that it is "scarcely half a century ago," "not quite half a century ago," and "so recently as 1856," that the discovery was made that Lochleven trout will rise to the fly—is the true date rather not 1856? And, on the occasion of the king's birthday in Edinburgh a hundred years ago, "there was universal regret that Mons

Meg could not join her note to the general joy. How she would have astonished the country herds of Fife and the nowt on the distant Ochils! Alas! she had cracked her voice a century before, doing honour to a Duke of York." Surely she would have equally astonished the townsfolk of Edinburgh, seeing that in 1794 Mons Meg had for thirty-six years been an exile in the Tower of London, whence she was taken back to Edinburgh only in 1829.

The Story of Alexander (Nutt), says Mr. R. Steele, "may be looked on as the result of ten centuries of Eastern and Western imagination." He inclines to the belief that its origin is Egyptian, and that "its composition was due to one of the Ptolemies, who were successors of Alexander on the Egyptian throne, and willing to legitimize their rule by connecting it with that of the last of the ancient kings." He supports his theory by the style of the Greek and the character of the magic. Few romances have been so popular as this, or more widely translated. Mr. Steele gives a long list of the various languages into which it has been translated, beginning with European versions, and ending with Arabic, Syrian, Armenian, Hebrew, Coptic, Malay, and Siamese. "An Ethiopic version, too, will shortly be published," and the "Dear Gracie" of Mr. Steele's preface has just had this beautiful book presented to her as a story. It is a story—or it may be called a romance of chivalry, told in the fearless fashion in which De Bracy told the history of the tribe of Benjamin in 'Ivanhoe.' Even in Mr. Grote's hands the story of Alexander was a romance; what, then, must it have been after mediæval imagination had been employed upon it, and Alexander's Indian journey, which led him far beyond the limits of the chronicler's geography, enabled the latter to bring into his story every fabulous creature from the phoenix to Gog and Magog, not to speak of mere griffins, gorgons, fell enchanters, and chimeras dire? Besides these pests of society there were, on the other hand, mussels so large that six men might make a meal of one, eels from the river thicker than a man's leg, and lampreys weighing twenty pounds each. We have only noticed one departure from romance language. No mediæval story-teller would, we think, have spoken of a hall being filled "with a flood of colour." It is only a small objection to make, but we are able to make no other. We have not left ourselves much space to praise Mr. Mason's illustrations, which are well drawn and good in every way. Their weak point is in the lettering of their legends, which entirely fails to remind us of those in early printed books, being quite easy to read.

The Wonderful Wapentake, by a Son of the Soil (Lane), is a pleasant collection of short papers on pastoral life, in Yorkshire as the name shows. Some of the papers have already appeared in the *Star* and the *Leeds Mercury*, and have attracted some attention. Mr. John Lane, of the Bodley Head, has had them beautifully printed on excellent paper and clothed in a nice green cover. The illustrations by Mr. J. A. Symington are pretty, if not very strong. The sketches are themselves slight enough, but the author has at times a sympathetic touch and is a close and loving student of nature. His observation of types and individuals is experienced and careful, and therefore interesting. His comparisons between country life now and in the past are not the least entertaining portions of the volume. If the vein strikes one at times as a little thin, this is the result in all probability of reading one sketch after another instead of taking them in dips. There are a few awkwardnesses of speech here and there, but, taking the volume as a whole, there is much less to blame than to praise.

We have received the twentieth edition of Mr. Howe's useful volume *The Classified*

Directory to the Metropolitan Charities (Longmans & Co.); *The Catholic Directory* (Burns & Oates), a careful compilation; and Col. Lean's serviceable quarterly *The Royal Navy List* (Witherby & Co.).

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW & Co. have sent us a neat reprint of Mr. Hatton's tale *Three Recruits*; and Messrs. Macmillan have reissued in one volume Mr. Forbes-Mitchell's interesting *Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny*, which have provoked much controversy, as books on the Mutiny seldom fail to do.

We have on our table *The Globe Trotter in India Two Hundred Years Ago*, by M. Macmillan (Sonnenschein); *Childhood in Literature and Art*, by H. E. Scudder (Boston, U.S., Houghton); *Common Words Commonly Mispronounced*, by W. Ramsay-Crawford (Blackie); *The Student's Froebel*, by W. H. Herford, Part II. (Isbister); *Organic Chemistry*, Part II., by W. H. Perkin and F. S. Kipping (Chambers); *A Few Chapters in Astronomy*, by C. Kennedy (Taylor & Francis); *Arnold's School Shakespeare: Macbeth*, edited by R. F. Cholmeley (Arnold); *Phantasms*, by W. Gerrard (Roxburghe Press); *Rea; or, Winning the Victoria Cross*, by L. Thompson (Jarrold); *Poems of Life and Death*, by M. S. C. Rickards (Bell); *The King's Daughter, and other Poems*, by M. Hunt (Stock); *Poems and Sonnets*, by J. S. Drennan (Kegan Paul); *Sermons and Addresses on Church Temperance Subjects*, by the Rev. H. J. Ellison, M.A. (Wells Gardner); *The Gospel of Buddha*, told by Paul Carus (Sonnenschein); *Pessimism, Science, and God*, by John P. Hopps (Williams & Norgate); *Parochial Sermons*, by the Rev. H. W. Dearden (Stock); *Spiritual Thoughts for Busy People*, compiled from the works of Fénelon (S.P.C.K.); *Predestination, as Taught in the Bible, and Verified in History: Israel in the British Race*, by A. K. Robinson (Leeds, Harrison & Waide); and *A Translation of the Four Gospels from the Syriac of the Sinaitic Palimpsest*, by Agnes Smith Lewis (Macmillan). Among New Editions we have *A Manual of our Mother Tongue*, by H. M. Hewitt and G. Beach, Vol. II. (W. H. Allen & Co.); *Fallen Angels*, by One of Them (Gay & Bird); and *Biological Religion*, by the late T. C. Finlayson, D.D. (Clarke).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Anecdota Oxoniensia: Part 8*, Ethiopic Version of the Hebrew Book of Jubilees, ed. by R. H. Charles, 4to. 12s.
Brewster's (C. B.) *The Cross the Key of Life*, cr. 8vo. 2/6.
Burnett's (Rev. T. M.) *The Wondrous Cross*, Simple Addresses on the Seven Last Words, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Drummond's (J.) *Vita, Veritas, Vita: Lectures on Christianity*, 8vo. 10/6 cl. (Hibbert Lectures, 1894.)
Earle's (Rev. W.) *The Reunion of Christendom*, cr. 8vo. 6/6.
Hiley's (R. W.) *A Year's Sermons*, based upon some of the Scriptures appointed for Sunday Morning, 2 vols. 12s.
Johnson's (Rev. T.) *The Preaching of the Cross*, cr. 8vo. 3/6.
Laud (William), by W. H. Hutton, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. (*Leaders of Religion Series*.)
Moule's (H. C. G.) *Grace and Godliness, Studies in the Epistle to the Ephesians*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Nye's *Popular Illustrated Church Annual*, 1895, 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Paget's (F.) *Studies in the Christian Character, Sermons*, 6s.
Simms's (A. H.) *In the Light of Christ, Two Series of Sermons*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Wace's (H.) *Christianity and Agnosticism, Reviews of Recent Attacks on the Christian Faith*, 8vo. 10/6 net.
Wilberforce (Canon) and others' *Gospel of the Kingdom, Five Advent Sermons*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Bent's (J. T.) *Ruined Cities of Mashedan*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. (Silver Library.)
Nollekens and his Times, by J. T. Smith, edited by E. Gosse, 8vo. 15/ cl.
Sutherland's (W.) *Eight Marble Patterns*, folio, 5/ in case.

Poetry.

- Aristotle's *Theory of Poetry and Fine Art*, by S. H. Butcher, 8vo. 10/ net.
Mills's (J. S.) *Fasciculus Versiculorum*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Oates's (J.) *The Teaching of Tennyson*, 8vo. 6/ cl.
Walker's (J.) *The Eternal, and other Poems*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Bibliography.

- Madan's (F.) *The Early Oxford Press, Bibliography of Books printed or published at Oxford, 1468-1640*, 8vo. 18/ cl.

Philosophy.

- Sigwart's (Dr. C.) *Logic*, trans. by H. Dendy, 2 vols. 21/ cl.

History and Biography.

- Baines's (F. E.) Forty Years at the Post Office, 1850-1890, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.
 English Men of Letters, edited by J. Morley: Vol. 2, containing Milton, Goldsmith, and Cowper, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Fitzgerald's (P.) Memoirs of an Author, 2 vols. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Fitzgibbon (J.), Life of, a Veteran of 1812, by Mary A. Fitzgibbon, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Froude's (J. A.) The English in Ireland in the Eighteenth Century, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl. (Silver Library.)
 Herbert and the Herbarians, by C. de Gamo, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl. (The Great Educators.)
 Holmes (James) and Varley (John), by A. T. Story, 8vo. 14/ Mitchell's (W. F.) Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny, 1857-59, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Pater's (W.) Greek Studies, a Series of Essays, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
 Phillips's (M.) History of Banks, Bankers, and Banking in Northumberland, &c., 4to. 31/6 cl.
 Povah's (Rev. A.) Annals of the Parishes of St. Olave, Hart Street, and Allhallows Staining, 4to. 42/ cl.

Geography and Travel.

- Parry's (O. H.) Six Months in a Syrian Monastery, 12/ net.
 Philology.
 Aristotle's Politics, a Revised Text, with Introduction, &c., by Susemihl and Hicks, Books 1 to 5, 8vo. 18/ net.

Science.

- Arnold's (J. O.) Steel Works Analysis, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl. (Specialist Series.)
 Bell's (T. F.) Jacquard Weaving and Designing, 8vo. 12/ net.
 Dutton's (T.) The Rearing and Feeding of Children, 2/ cl.
 Fowler's (W. W.) Summer Studies of Birds and Books, 6/ cl.
 Fox Terrier Club Stud-Book and Show Record, Vol. 5, edited by H. Dalziel, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Gleason's (B. B.) Essentials of the Diseases of the Ear, cr. 8vo. 4/ net.
 Haycraft's (J. B.) Darwinism and Race Progress, cr. 8vo. 2/6
 Hoare's (E. W.) Manual of Veterinary Therapeutics and Pharmacology, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
 Orford's (H.) Lens Work for Amateurs, cr. 8vo. 3/ bds.
 Redgrave's (G. R.) Calcareous Cements, their Nature and Use, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.
 Sellmann's (Dr. H.) Principles of Surgery and Surgical Pathology, translated by Rogers and Tilton, 8vo. 21/ cl.
 Sexton's (A. H.) Elementary Text-Book of Metallurgy, 6/ cl.

General Literature.

- Burger's (A.) Thistle-down and Mustard Seed, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Chapple's (J. M.) The Minor Chord, a Story of a Prima Donna, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Crawford's (F. M.) The Ralstons, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.
 Dark Deeds, by Dick Donovan, 12mo. 2/ bds.
 Edgeworth's (M.) Castle Rackrent and The Absentee, illustrated by C. Hammond, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Evans's (E. E.) Transplanted Manners, a Novel, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Hero Tales of Ireland, collected by J. Curtin, 8/6 net.
 Life (A.) Laid Bare, a Story of the Day, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
 Lillie's (A.) Madame Blavatsky and her Theosophy, 6/ cl.
 McDonald's (D.) Sweet-scented Flowers and Fragrant Leaves, Interesting Associations, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
 Norris's (W. E.) Matthew Austin, a Novel, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
 Piggott's (M. T.) Two on a Tour, and other Papers from the Isis, cr. 8vo. 2/6 net.
 Solovyoff's (V. S.) A Modern Priestess of Isis, abridged and translated from the Russian by W. Leaf, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
 Stoker's (Sir) The Water of the Mow, 12mo. 2/ cl. (Acme Library.)
 Strachey's (Sir E.) Talks at a Country House, Fact and Fiction, cr. 8vo. 4/6 net.
 Wood's (Mrs. H.) East Lynne, cheap edition, 2/ canvas.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

- Grætz (H.): Emendationes in Plerisque Veteris Testamenti Libros, Part 3, 7m. 50.
 Neher (S. J.): Conspectus Hierarchie Catholice in toto Orbe Terrarum, 1m. 50.

Fine Art.

- Kekulé (R.): B. bisher Marcellus genannter Kopf in den königl. Museen, 2m.

Philosophy.

- Funck-Brentano (Th.): L'Homme et sa Destinée, 1fr. 50.

History and Biography.

- Maulde la Clavière (R. de): Louise de Savoie et François Ier, 8fr.
 Mémoires de Larevellière-Lépeaux, publiés par son Fils, 3 vols. 20fr.
 Sybel (H. v.): Die Begründung des Deutschen Reiches, Vol. 1, 7m. 50.

Philology.

- Codex Vercellensis, in getreuer Abbildg. hrg. v. R. Wülker, 32m.

Science.

- Durand (Th.) et Schinz (H.): Conspectus Floræ Africæ, Vol. 8, 25fr.
 Jahres-Bericht über die Fortschritte der Thier-Chemie, Vol. 23, 22m.
 Meyer (V.) und Jacobson (P.): Lehrbuch der organischen Chemie, Vol. 2, Part 1, 7m. 20.
 Zittel (K. A.): Traité de Paléontologie, Part 1, Vol. 4, 29m.

General Literature.

- Fouvorville (A. de): La Politique indo-chinoise, 3fr. 50.
 Rod (E.): Les Roches blanches, 3fr. 50.

THE TWO CHRISTMASTIDES.

I.

ON Winter's woof, which scarcely seems of snow,
 But hangs translucent, like a virgin's veil,
 O'er headstone, monument, and guardian-rail,
 The New Year's sun shines golden—seems to throw

Upon her coffin-flowers a greeting glow
 From lands she loved to think on—seems to trail
 Love's holy radiance from the very Grail
 O'er those white flowers before they sink below.

Is that a spirit or bird whose sudden song
 From yonder sunlit tree beside the grave
 Recalls a robin's warble, sweet yet strong,
 Upon a lawn beloved of wind and wave—
 Recalls her "Christmas Robin," ruddy, brave,
 Winning the crumbs she throws where blackbirds throng?

II.

In Christmastide of heaven does she recall
 Those happy days with Gabriel by the sea,
 Who gathered round him those he loved, when she

"Must coax the birds to join the festival,"
 And said, "The sea-sweet winds are musical
 With carols from the billows singing free
 Around the groynes, and every shrub and tree
 Seems conscious of the Channel's rise and fall!"

The coffin lowers, and I can see her now—
 See that dear sister standing by her side,
 As once I saw them 'neath our Christmas bough—
 And her, that dearer one, who sanctified
 With halo of mother's love our Christmastide—
 And Gabriel too—with peace upon his brow.

THEODORE WATTS.

'DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.'

THE matter is of very little importance, but Mr. Stevenson had conceived, and had mentioned to myself, his 'Jekyll and Hyde' long before the appearance of 'The Maiden Tribute,' which it is highly improbable that he ever read. I believe his book was actually published years before Mr. Stead's work, but my memory may play me false. The actual writing of 'Jekyll and Hyde' found its occasion in a dream. After a copious supper of bread and jam, Mr. Stevenson had a very vivid dream of Hyde taking the mystic potion, and turning into Jekyll, in a cupboard, when pursued. The scene is not in the story. Mr. Stevenson at once got writing materials and set to work.

Apropos. Mr. Watts says *aspirant*, but Mr. Swinburne rhymes *aspirant* to "tyrant."

A. LANG.

Mill Hill School, N.W., Jan. 6, 1895.

In the eighth of 'Punch's Letters to his Son,' published by Douglas Jerrold in 1843, occurs the following remarkable passage:—

"I have learned to separate the twin natures with which, it is my belief, every man is born, and to sit in judgment upon the vices, the follies, the high feelings and grovelling appetites, which make up the double me. Make a trial of the process, reader. Quit the world for a season. Look boldly into yourself, and however high may have been your notion of the cleanliness of your moral temple, you will, if you look with steady, courageous eyes, blush and marvel at its many dirty little holes and corners, the vile, unswept nooks—the crafty spiders and their noisome webs. And in this temple, to your surprise, you will behold two pulpits for two preachers. In the innocence of your knowledge you thought there was but one divine, and that a most respectable, orthodox, philanthropic creature; punctual in his discourses, exemplary in his discipline—indeed, the very pattern of a devout and cheerful man. You look and behold there is another preacher, a fellow with no more reverence in him than in a Malay amuck; a pettifogging, mean-spirited, albeit quick-witted, shuffling scoundrel, whose voice, too, in the throng and press of the world has appeared to you so like the voice of the good, grave gentleman whom you deemed alone in his vocation, that you have a thousand times, without reflection, followed his bidding—unhesitatingly obeyed his behests, and only now, when you have set apart a season for consideration, only now perceive the imposture—recognize the counterfeit. I say it, you are twin-souled. Step into my hermitage. Submit to wholesome discipline of thought, and be assured of it, you will in due season be able to divorce self from self; to arraign your fallen moiety at the bar of conscience; to bring against it a thousand score of crimes, a thousand peccadilloes, all the doings of the scurvy rascal you bear within you, and whose misdeeds are for the first time made known to you. Well, the court is open. 'Who,' you cry, 'is that beetle-browed,

shuffling knave at the bar? Is he a poacher, a smuggler, a suborner of false testimony, a swindler, a thief?' Gently, gently, sir; that unfortunate creature is your twin-soul. It was he who in the case of Mr. Suchathing advised you to—'I remember. Don't speak of it. Shocking! I'm very sorry.' And it was he who, when poor widow Soandso—'There, hold your tongue! I recollect all about it. How have I been deceived by that scoundrel! But then, how could I ever have believed that I carried such a rascal about me?'"

Is there not considerable likelihood that it was in this passage from Douglas Jerrold that Stevenson found the germ of the idea which he developed with such skill and power in 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'?

E. HAMFDEN-COOK.

HOWEVER long Stevenson may have had the idea of the double life in his mind before he wrote 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,' the same idea had been in the mind of Hans Christian Andersen long before. It is almost impossible to imagine that Stevenson had never read 'The Marsh King's Daughter,' and surely there you have it?

ROBERT ROBERTS.

If Mr. Jacobs will refer to *Scribner's Magazine* for January, 1888, he will, I believe, find there Mr. Stevenson's own account of the origin of 'Jekyll and Hyde,' in the course of a 'Chapter on Dreams,' of which an abstract was published in the *Pall Mall Gazette* for December 28th, 1887. From the latter source I derive, and abridge, the following quotation:—

"I had long been trying to write a story on this subject, to find a body, a vehicle, for that strong sense of man's double being which must at times come in upon and overwhelm the mind of every thinking creature. For two days I went about racking my brains for a plot of any sort; and on the second night I dreamed the scene at the window, and a scene, afterwards split in two, in which Hyde, pursued for some crime, took the powder and underwent the change in the presence of his pursuers. All the rest was made awake and consciously. The meaning of the tale is therefore mine, and had long pre-existed in my garden of Adonis, and tried one body after another in vain. [Spenser, F. Q. III. vi. Blake would have said "in the halls of Los."] Mine, too, is the setting, the characters. All that was given me was the matter of three scenes, and the central idea of a voluntary change becoming involuntary."

May I follow a note on one topic by a query on another? There lies before me

"A Book [explaining] The Ranks and Dignities of British Society. Intended chiefly for the instruction of Young Persons. With twenty-four coloured engravings. [Dedicated (by permission) to Her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth.] London: Printed for Tabart and Co. at the Juvenile and School Library, 157, New Bond Street, by Heney & Haddon, 12, Tabernacle-Walk. Price Seven Shillings, Coloured. 1809."

After this title comes, on a second leaf, the dedication, dated London, February 2nd, 1809; text on pp. 1-136; and, finally, a list of plates. Size 5½ in. by 3½ in.

A copy of this book was probably in Lamb's mind, perhaps in his possession, when he wrote the amusing letter to Manning dated January 2nd, 1810 (Ainger, cxxxiv.). Had either Lamb or his sister any share in its composition? The dedication, the terms in which it is expressed, and some details relating to the Court suggest a female author. GREY HUBERT SKIPWITH.

P.S.—Lamb's *jeu d'esprit* runs as follows:—

".....Tuthill is Dr. Tuthill. I continue Mr. Lamb. I have published a little book for children on titles of honour; and to give them some idea of the difference of rank and gradual rising, I have made a little scale, supposing myself to receive the following various accessions of dignity from the king, who is the fountain of honour—As at first, 1, Mr. C. Lamb; 2, C. Lamb, Esq.; 3, Sir C. Lamb, Bart.; 4, Baron Lamb, of Stamford; 5, Viscount Lamb; 6, Earl Lamb; 7, Marquis Lamb; 8, Duke Lamb. It would look like quibbling to carry it on further, and especially as it is not necessary for children to go beyond the ordinary titles of sub-regal dignity in our own country; otherwise I have sometimes in my dreams imagined myself still advancing, as 9th,

* "Christmas, 1875.—Rossetti had packed his house near Bognor. Mrs. Rossetti, the mother, Miss Maria and Miss Christina, the sisters, Misses Poldori, who were the aunts... were there."—*Memoirs of Eighty Years*, by Gordon Hake, Physician.

King Lamb; 10th, Emperor Lamb; 11th, Pope Innocent; higher than which is nothing upon earth."

Was Lamb acquainted with the story of 'The Fisherman and his Wife,' which Henry Crabb Robinson communicated to the brothers Grimm? The heroine, when by supernatural means her wishes were granted, advanced in rapid stages to the Papacy; but being discontented with that merely subaltern position, she found herself "back again in the dirty hovel."

DEFOE IN TROUBLE: MORE STATE PAPERS.

DEFOE's biographers have told us how that writer was prosecuted in 1713 for publishing certain pamphlets about the Pretender which his enemies could not or would not see were ironical. The warrant for Defoe's arrest was issued in April, but a letter from Lord Chief Justice Parker to one of the Secretaries of State, dated April 15th, 1713 (State Papers Dom., Anne, Bdlle. 25, No. 27), has not been noticed. Parker wrote that he had had a complaint laid before him upon oath against several libels—'Reasons against the Succession of the House of Hanover' (which had passed through four editions), 'What if the Pretender should Come?' (two editions) and 'What if the Queen should Die?' "I have," says Parker, "taken up and bound to appear the first day of the term Daniel De Foe, who appears to be the author of them, and to have sent great numbers of some of them into the North. The printer and publisher have given information of the author, and have likewise readily brought in their servants to give evidence against him."

Parker recommended that the Attorney-General should undertake the prosecution. Probably this had not been done before because

"such scribbles have not fallen within your Lordship's notice. The very titles of two of them are libellous and seditious, and near treason, and the third saucy. They contain arguments to make out that the Pretender has a title to the Crown, and that the advantages of his reign will be greater than what we now enjoy under Her most sacred Majesty (whom God long preserve). 'Tis of much less moment to mention after that, the attacking the Protestant Succession, and the many insinuating reflections upon those now in Her Majesty's service and in power, and tending to make Her Majesty's subjects uneasy. There is in some parts a mixture of what they call banter, which seems designed to screen the rest, and to make way for a pretence of an innocent intention. To which I shall say no more at present than that these are not subjects to be played with."

The compositors who had been examined deposed that the manuscript of 'Reasons against the Succession,' &c., was in Defoe's writing, except two paragraphs (pp. 38-9) copied by Defoe's younger son. Defoe visited the printer's (Richard Janaway) in February, and a compositor then pointed out a mistake of "derepi" for *deripi* on the MS. title-page. 'What if the Pretender should Come?' was also in Defoe's writing. His sons brought the corrected proofs; and Janaway's messenger took proofs to Defoe's chambers in the Temple or to his house at Newington, and delivered them to Defoe or one of his sons. Defoe proposed the pamphlet 'Reasons against the Succession,' &c., and Janaway agreed to pay the usual price for pamphlets of that size, viz, four guineas, and twenty-five copies for every 1,000. The same terms were agreed upon in the case of 'What if the Pretender should Come?' Defoe said the tracts were to be sent to Newcastle and Scotland; but Janaway believed that he disposed of them in London to Janaway's disadvantage.

John Baker (whose name appears on the title-pages of these tracts) deposed that he had agreed with Defoe to pay him for every sixpenny pamphlet he should write two guineas on the sale of every 500 copies. Baker and Janaway shared in the profits of the three pamphlets.

It is well known that the Earl of Oxford intervened on behalf of Defoe, who has referred at length, in his 'Appeal to Honour and Justice,'

to the free pardon which was granted him. This "Pardon to Daniel De Foe of London, Gent., of all crimes and offences by him committed in writing, printing, and publishing three libels," is dated December 11th, and not November 29th as is generally stated. The documents referred to above are of interest, because they show the terms upon which Defoe wrote pamphlets. They also acquaint us for the first time with the fact that Defoe had chambers in the Temple, and prove that in 1713 his sons were assisting him in his business transactions.

Directly after the accession of George I., Defoe was committed for trial for a libel in the *Flying Post*, a paper published by William Hurt; but he was soon liberated. On August 28th, 1714, the Attorney-General (Northey) gave an opinion upon the question who should most properly be prosecuted, Hurt, Baker, or Defoe (State Papers Dom., Geo. I., Bdlle. 1, No. 35). Hurt and Baker had been examined, and Northey was of opinion that there was sufficient evidence against Hurt; but Hurt had been in the pillory, and was then in execution for a fine. It was not worth prosecuting him. Baker might, perhaps, be convicted. There was no evidence against Defoe, except Hurt's saying he believed the letter mentioned in the *Flying Post* was in Defoe's writing, "which I doubt," said Northey, "is an evidence not to be depended upon. I will attend the lords justices with an account of the last prosecution against Defoe, according to their excellencies' commands." The secretary to those lords justices was Joseph Addison, to whom Defoe had referred satirically more than once in his writings.

GEORGE A. AITKEN.

M. L'ABBÉ DEBOUT AND THE ENGLISH ARCHIVES.

75, Mount Street, Park Lane.

SOME few months ago, a French writer of note, M. l'Abbé Henri Debout, visited this country, in the hope of finding new material in our archives for a projected life of Joan of Arc. Moreover, seeing that all his compatriots in writing about the Pucelle had been content to accept their English authorities at second hand, he formed the laudable resolution of investigating at their source those facts which had been already printed.

As far as new material went, the expedition was a failure, for our records are extremely meagre with regard to the history of the valiant maid. There have as yet been discovered in England but three documents relating to her person and exploits, and in none of these does her name actually occur. In one of them she is described as "a disciple and lyme of the Feende, called the Pucelle, that used fals enchaitements and sorcerie." The document in which this phrase is contained had been quoted by Quicherat in his able 'Procès de Jeanne d'Arc,' and in the fifth volume of this work (under the title 'Lettres, Actes, et autres Pièces Détachées') the author reprints it with its immediate context from Rymer's 'Fœdera.' But M. Debout thought he had discovered a flaw in his authority when, proceeding to verify the reference given by Rymer—"A.D. 1428, An 7 H. 6, Cott. Bib. Titus E. 5"—he could find no trace of any such manuscript. After trying to account for its absence in various ways, such as the destruction caused by the Cottonian fire in 1731, the possibility of the document having been stolen, or a change in the classification of different volumes having been made, all of which theories he discarded on weighing them carefully, he comes to the crushing conclusion that Rymer foisted upon the public a spurious document, the authority for which he took no pains to ascertain.

Having returned to France, with certain theories of his own confirmed by his having failed to discover this important piece of evidence, the Abbé Debout wrote a brochure of

twenty-five pages accompanied by many copious and learned notes. Its object was to tell the story of his unfruitful mission and to discredit Rymer as an authority in the eyes of his countrymen. This pamphlet, 'Jeanne d'Arc et les Archives Anglaises,' which has lately been published in Paris, already bore the date 1895. But subsequent investigation proves that the conclusion he has arrived at is, no less than the date, premature. In spite of M. Debout's experience and his ingenious theory, Rymer's name as a conscientious annalist is too respectable to be put out of court in this summary fashion, and I determined on further research. Fresh light was thrown on the matter by another printed book, the 'Rotuli Parliamentorum' from the eighteenth year of Henry VI. to the end of his reign. In the appendix to the fifth volume of this work there is a long petition from the Duke of Bedford to the king, of which the extract printed by Rymer, and copied by Quicherat, forms a part. If then Rymer was mistaken in the authenticity of the manuscript, so must have been also the editors of this book, John Topham, of Lincoln's Inn, and Thomas Astle, Keeper of the Records at the Tower. The reference which they give (p. 435) is the same as that given by Rymer ("Bib. Cott. Titus E. 5"), and they only differ from him in placing the date of the manuscript in the twelfth year of Henry's reign, instead of the seventh, that is in 1433, instead of in 1428.

It was now obvious that an independent examination of the volume Titus E. 5 must be made, and accordingly, after a careful inspection of all the manuscripts up to folio 372, my patience was rewarded. The fragment in question is where Rymer, Topham, and Astle said it was, and M. Debout is not only mistaken in declaring the absence of any such document, but his theories founded upon its non-existence, and set forth in his pamphlet, are without the slightest foundation.

The petition of the Duke of Bedford begins with these words: "My right doubted and souerane lorde"; it is undated, and M. Debout, notwithstanding the fact that he was looking for a fragment beginning with "And," and ending with an "&c.," both indicative of an extract, seems to have entirely overlooked this manuscript. He probably expected to find the short, isolated passage printed by Rymer, and never thought of its being incorporated in a long document such as that on folio 372.

I am sorry for M. Debout and his wasted energies; but it is satisfactory to be able to acquit Rymer of any misstatement, intentional or otherwise.

J. M. STONE.

THE ART OF BOOKMAKING.

Hampden House, N.W., January, 1895.

MAY I be permitted to reply to Mr. Cyril Davenport's letter in the *Athenæum* of December 22nd, 1894, respecting several illustrations used in 'A History of the Art of Bookbinding'?

Mr. Elliot Stock purchased from Mr. Horace Cox, proprietor of the *Queen* newspaper, certain process blocks representing examples of ancient bookbindings; proofs taken from the blocks were sent to me, and from the proofs I made a selection.

Mr. Stock informs me that in selling the blocks the vendor made no stipulation as to their use, and gave no information respecting the manner in which they became his property, but he invited the purchaser to take more. Mr. Stock bought the blocks believing that the proprietor of the *Queen* had a right to sell illustrations which had appeared in that journal. The blocks being the property of the publisher of my book, I could scarcely be expected to refer to their history; indeed, I did not know that Mr. Davenport or anyone else had the slightest claim upon them. Before making a serious accusation against me Mr. Davenport should, I venture to think, have satisfied himself of the

facts of the case. If the blocks were his property, or he had any claim upon them, it is to his own publisher, the proprietor of the *Queen*, that he should have complained of an infringement of his rights. I regret that Mr. Davenport should feel annoyed, and I hope he will now exonerate me from blame.

With respect to the binding of the British Museum copy of 'Postilla Thome de Aquino in Job,' I acknowledge an error, and as regards the ornamentation I am open to conviction that it is not hand work, but stamped.

For the past fortnight I have been out of town, hence the delay in answering Mr. Davenport's letter.

W. SALT BRASSINGTON.

Literary Gossip.

THE forthcoming volume of the Edinburgh edition of the late R. L. Stevenson's works, being vol. ii. of the section "Travels and Excursions," will contain a hundred pages of matter hitherto unpublished, being the account of the author's passage across the Atlantic, from Glasgow to New York, as an emigrant, in 1879. This account, under the heading 'From the Clyde to Sandy Hook,' forms now, as it was originally intended to form, the first part of a complete work, entitled 'The Amateur Emigrant,' the second part consisting of the section already published under the title 'Across the Plains.'

In reference to the same author, Mr. Sidney Colvin writes to us:—

"Into the published accounts of the burial of the late R. L. Stevenson there has crept an error which is likely to become stereotyped unless it is corrected in time. The name of the peak to which his remains were carried was given in the first telegrams from Auckland as Pala Mountain. This is a mere error of some transcriber. No such mountain exists; nor are the alternatives 'Vala' and 'Vaca,' which have since been commonly given, much more correct. The real name of the hill is Vaea, with the three vowels pronounced separately, as in Italian, and the accent on the e. It may be hoped that some of the distinguished writers who have published elegies on the dead will take the pains of recasting, accordingly, the lines in which this name occurs."

MR. MURRAY announces a volume of reminiscences by Sir Joseph Crowe, the well-known collaborator of Signor Cavalcaselle. Before he became an art critic, or a consul-general Sir J. Crowe was a busy journalist. He was on the staff of the *Daily News* in its early days; he was a war correspondent with the Turks in the Danubian campaign of 1854; he subsequently went to the Crimea in the same capacity. He was at Bombay in the time of the Indian Mutiny, and he was in North Italy in 1859. Another book of autobiography which Mr. Murray is preparing for publication is 'The Crimean War from First to Last,' a narrative derived from the journals and private letters of Sir Daniel Lysons. Sir Daniel was the first soldier to land at Old Fort, and was with the Light Division throughout the campaign. He was present both at Alma and Inkermann, served in the trenches, and took part in the two attacks on the Redan.

BESIDES these memoirs Mr. Murray will publish a life of the late Sir R. Sandeman, famous for his management of the Baluch tribes. Mr. Thornton, formerly Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, is

writing the book, and will include in the work recollections of Sir Robert contributed by Lord Roberts, Sir A. Lyall, Sir R. Temple, and Mr. George Curzon.

MR. GLADSTONE's determination to make St. Deniol's library at Hawarden a really representative one may be gathered from the following letter addressed by him, before he left home this week, to Messrs. Burns & Oates:—

Hawarden Castle, Chester, January 5, 1895.

Dear Sirs,—I am founding a library at this place, of which a considerable portion will be Theological; and in the Theological portion a large section will be historical. I have no difficulty in obtaining the works, either Anglican or Puritan, which belong to the history especially of the sixteenth, but also of the seventeenth, century. An essential part of that history, however, is what I may term Anglo-Roman, and to this I find little access in the ordinary book-market. It occurs to me that your firm is likely to have the means of acquiring libraries, or parts of libraries, rich in this department. If this be so, and if the occasion arise, I should be very glad if, in furtherance of my purpose, which you may approve, you would be good enough to inform me. The library is not to be private or personal, but is intended for public purposes. On the 7th and early on the 8th I shall be at 4, Whitehall Court, S.W. After that I am going abroad for a time; but any letter on the subject might be addressed to my son-in-law, the Rev. Harry Drew, at this place. I remain, Dear Sirs,

Your faithful and obedient

W. E. GLADSTONE.

Speaking of Mr. Gladstone, we may mention that his translation of Horace has gone into a second edition.

MR. HALL CAINE has found a portion of a remarkable Manx ballad, which will be interesting to the student of myth as well as to the student of poetry. There appears to be no record in the Isle of Man that it has ever been written before, and Mr. Caine picked it up and pieced it together in its native tongue from the recollection of the older fishermen of Peel. He has made an English version which has no claim whatever to be literal, though the burden and metre and many of the lines come direct from the broken and incomplete Manx original. The story is of the phantom ship family of legend, which is common to all Scandinavian countries, though the Manx variant appears to be the most rounded and complete of any yet found. The English ballad, which bears the title of the Manx fragment, 'Graih my Chree' ('Love of my Heart'), is to appear in the first number of a new magazine.

THE biography of his brother, the late Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, upon which Mr. Leslie Stephen is engaged, will be published shortly by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. The same firm are issuing 'Recollections of a Military Life,' by General Sir John Adye, G.C.B., with illustrations by the author, who gives lively accounts of the Crimean campaign, the Indian Mutiny, and the Egyptian war.

THE memoir of the late Bishop of Winchester, Dr. Harold Browne, which Dr. Kitchin has written, will be issued by Mr. Murray before the end of the month.

THE Council of the College of Preceptors have decided to open their Day Training College for Secondary Teachers in October

next, and have appointed as its first principal Mr. J. J. Findlay, a graduate of Oxford and Leipzig. The Council are also offering for competition a number of exhibitions to the new college, in the hope of attracting from the universities men who have taken honours in the final examinations, and intend to make teaching their profession.

MR. MURRAY promises a volume of sermons by the late Master of Balliol, most of which were preached in the College Chapel. Some addresses to communicants are added.

WHEN Miss Buss's retirement from the headmistress-ship of the North London Collegiate School for Girls seemed to be near, Miss Ridley, one of the Governors, undertook to write the story of the school, Miss Buss wishing her to do it, and giving her the necessary information. The work will now assume the form of a memoir, and Miss Ridley will be grateful if any one possessing letters bearing on the subject will allow her to see them. They will be carefully returned to their respective owners. Miss Ridley's address is Stagshaw, Daleham Gardens, Hampstead.

It may be added that Miss Ridley has taken a deep and practical interest for many years in the higher education of girls; and that she is the author of a girls' story well known in England and America, 'Better than Good,' and of a charming play-science book, 'Under the Waves.'

THE eighth section of the 'History of the Deanery of Bicester,' containing an account of the parishes of Audley, Bucknell, Caversfield, and Stoke Lyne, will be issued by Mr. Stock before long.

MESSRS. BLISS, SANDS & FOSTER announce a series of biographies entitled 'Public Men of To-day.' The general editor is Mr. S. H. Jeyes. The first volume will appear early in the year, and five more are preparing: 'Li Hung Chang,' by Prof. Robert K. Douglas; 'The Right Hon. Cecil Rhodes,' by Mr. Edward Dicey; 'The Ameer,' by Mr. Wheeler; 'The German Emperor,' by Mr. C. Lowe; and 'Señor Castelar,' by Mr. David Hannay.

MESSRS. WILSONS & MILNE will shortly publish a 'History of Currency,' written by Mr. W. A. Shaw. The work treats of the history of the gold and silver currencies, and of the monetary standards and exchange systems of Europe and the United States, and also of the influence exerted upon commercial and national well-being by currency and exchange phenomena. Besides having a didactic bearing, the work is intended to serve as a text-book or manual of metallic currency history. For the latter purpose, special appendices are added, giving separately the history of the monetary systems of Florence, Venice, Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, and France, from the thirteenth century downwards. It is expected that the book will appear in about a fortnight.

THE new magazine, to be called the *London Home Monthly*, is to be a popular illustrated periodical, of the general character of the *Strand*, but at half the price (threepence) and makes more particular appeal to the home circle. The editor is Mr. Ralph Caine, brother of the novelist, and Mr. Hall Caine is to appear in the first number

in a capacity in which he has not yet, we think, been seen except in the *Athenæum* a dozen years ago, that of a poet. Other contributors are promised from among the best-known names in the Church, literature, and the drama.

WE are sorry to hear of the decease of Mr. Joshua Butterworth, the well-known law publisher. The business was founded about the end of the last century by Joseph Butterworth, the son of a Baptist minister at Coventry. To him succeeded his nephew Henry, who died in 1860, and whose son was the gentleman whose loss we have now to deplore—a most amiable and upright man, who always looked like a family solicitor of high standing. Mr. Joshua Butterworth took a considerable interest in literary matters. He was one of the committee who purchased Shakspeare's house in 1849; he belonged to the Guild of Literature founded by Dickens and Bulwer Lytton; and he had been for many years a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He joined the Stationers' Company in 1838, and was elected Master in July last. He presented to the Company two stained-glass windows, one containing a life-size figure of Shakspeare, and the other a scene from the career of Caxton; and he put up a memorial to Samuel Richardson in St. Bride's, Fleet Street.

MR. U. MAGGS, the second-hand bookseller, has decided to retire after a business life of upwards of forty years, and his interest in the business has been transferred to his two eldest sons, Mr. B. Dawson Maggs and Mr. H. Paterson Maggs, who have for a long period been his assistants, and taken an active part.

THE tales of John Galt, the Ayrshire novelist, are about to be reissued by Messrs. William Blackwood & Sons, the original publishers, in handy foolscap 8vo. volumes, with illustrations. Mr. S. R. Crockett will contribute a general introduction to the works and a prefatory note to each volume. The text of the novels will be revised by another Scot, Mr. D. Storrar Meldrum, author of 'The Story of Margrèdel.'

To the forthcoming number of the *English Historical Review* the Bishop of Peterborough contributes 'Some Literary Correspondence of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester,' and Mr. Firth a letter of Lord Saye and Sele, written in 1657, on the place of the House of Lords in the English Constitution. Mr. S. R. Gardiner disposes of a notebook which has been wrongly assigned to Pym. Among the other contents are papers by Mr. J. E. Gilmore on 'The Early History of Syria and Asia Minor'; by Mr. J. H. Round on 'King Stephen and the Earl of Chester'; by Mr. W. E. Rhodes on 'Edmund, Earl of Lancaster'; by Mr. F. D. Matthew on 'The Authorship of the Wycliffite Bible'; by the Rev. J. A. Dodd on 'A City Parish under the Protectorate'; and by Judge O'Connor Morris on 'Disputed Passages of the Campaign of 1815.' The reviews of books include contributions by Lord Acton, Sir Frederick Pollock, Prof. Westlake, Sir H. H. Howorth, M.P., and Principal Ward.

THE Authors' Club of New York has lost no time in electing an honorary member to fill the place left vacant by Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson. M. Alphonse Daudet has received notice of the honour to be offered

to him, and has accepted it with every demonstration of pleasure.

THE obituary of last week includes Mr. A. K. Moore, who for some five years or so had been editor of the *Morning Post*,—also Sir James Lacaita; Canon Duncan, formerly secretary of the National Society; M. Charles Brot, a once popular novelist; and Dr. Harper, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, and formerly head master of Sherborne School.

MR. CROCKETT's new book, 'Bog, Myrtle, and Peat,' a set of tales gathered in Gallo-way since 1889, will be issued by Messrs. Bliss, Sands & Foster on March 1st.

THE only Parliamentary Paper of importance last week was the Index to Reports of Her Majesty's Diplomatic and Consular Representatives Abroad on Trade and Subjects of General Interest, with Appendix, 1886-94 (1s. 10d.). There are no Parliamentary Papers of general interest this week.

SCIENCE

The Grouse: Natural History, by the Rev. H. A. Macpherson; *Shooting*, by A. J. Stuart-Wortley; *Cookery*, by George Saintsbury. (Longmans & Co.)

THIS, the second instalment of the new "Fur and Feather Series," edited by Mr. A. E. T. Watson, is by the authors of its predecessor 'The Partridge,' and is even a trifle superior to that volume in the beauty and accuracy of its illustrations. These are chiefly by Mr. A. Thorburn, but Mr. Stuart-Wortley's contributions are always true to the life; while his diagrams, showing the difference between Scotch and Yorkshire moors and the consequent necessity for elasticity of plan in "driving," form an important feature of the work. In the letterpress Mr. Macpherson leads off—as before—with five chapters on the natural history of the red grouse, and grows eloquent over the only well-defined species of bird peculiar to the British Islands. We say "well-defined" in order to guard against the possible imputation of ignorance respecting certain "splitters' species" of British tits and wrens; but it is a marvel that, owing to its variations in plumage, our *Lagopus scoticus* has not been subdivided into three or four species; however, let us be thankful that even splitters are sometimes mercifully illogical. As it is, the red grouse will not long remain peculiar to our islands, for more than twenty years ago Baron Oscar Dickson introduced the species to Sweden, where it has thriven; and in 1891 Count Knipphausen began to do the same in East Friesland. In this connexion Mr. Macpherson gives directions as to the precautions to be adopted in transporting live grouse, and says very properly that "the tops of the cages should be lined with canvas, so that the birds could not injure their heads by flying upwards"; but this is not enough, for frightened birds dash upwards with great force, and the canvas should, therefore, be stretched at least one inch below the wire or wooden top of the cage. The neglect of such apparently small matters frustrates the majority of experiments in the transport of birds and other animals; in fact, three-fourths of our failures are due to the want of infinite capacity for taking pains. To return to the

main point: the distribution of the red grouse, its habits, phases of plumage, friends and foes, are successively treated by Mr. Macpherson with the skill of an accomplished observer, and his share of the book concludes with a picturesque account of a mode of pursuit known as "becking." This consists in lying in ambush on the moor before the dawn of day, and "potting" the cock birds as they are attracted, in the first grey light, to a well-imitated call of the hen. Unfortunately, it is by poachers that this is chiefly practised; "still, no old-fashioned keeper in Lakeland or on the Border thinks anything of getting a brace or two of grouse for his master's larder by 'becking,'" and so long as the birds are not poached (i.e., stolen), the thinning out of the old cocks is not detrimental to the moor.

Mr. Stuart-Wortley's opening chapter is descriptive of a rapid run in August by the Scotch mail from London to Perthshire, and is a very pretty bit of word-painting; while, looking at the scientific knowledge and financial enterprise visible on this wonderful journey, he may be excused for asking enthusiastically:—

"What has produced this? Not all the beauties of Edinburgh, nor all the factories and furnaces of Glasgow; not the enterprise of Dundee nor the fisheries of Aberdeen; nay, neither the Trossachs nor the Pass of Killiecrankie, the snows of Ben Nevis nor the depths of Loch Lomond, but grouse, grouse and nothing else."

The chapter on shooting over dogs is excellent in its way, and even good sportsmen who have not hitherto been "entered" to grouse may learn a great deal from the author's wide experience. By far the more important, however, are the portions devoted to driving, and these have already formed—and will form—a fertile subject for discussion in many a shooting lodge. For a long time it was believed that driving, as practised in Yorkshire, was unsuitable to Scotch moors, owing to the unfavourable nature of the ground, the opposition or unwillingness of the Scotch keepers, and the difficulty of obtaining drivers; but Mr. Stuart-Wortley maintains that the last is, in most instances, the only one that constitutes a serious source of trouble, and even this only applies to sparsely populated districts, where the few inhabitants are obliged to take advantage of every moment of fine weather for their hay or corn harvest. He considers all these objections in detail; shows, by precept and by diagrams, how the majority, at all events, may be overcome; and gives a valuable letter from the Mackintosh of Moy Hall, Inverness-shire, on whose moors over five hundred brace were killed on one day in 1893 by driving. This is admirable as a beginning, and Mr. Stuart-Wortley asserts that not only are the majority of the Scotch moors "drivable," but that "there are many which are more suitable for driving, and would yield larger bags, than a second-rate Yorkshire moor." They cannot, of course, expect to rival the first-class uplands, where driving has long been practised, and where the majority of the men employed are real tacticians, capable of rising to almost any emergency without superior orders. The character of these

drivers, sturdy dalesmen who know every foot of the ground, is admirably sketched. At the present day no defence of driving is needed, but rather more than twenty years ago it was often attacked, and the author's description in a magazine article was stigmatized as a eulogy of "inhuman butchery" by a writer over initials which we do not think it necessary to reproduce. Amusingly abusive are the "poetical" effusions of this assailant, of whose identity Mr. Stuart-Wortley says that he is still ignorant, though it must be a very open secret; but, anyhow, the man is dead, and we can afford to laugh over his prejudices. In quite a different way Mr. Stuart-Wortley himself raises a smile in the course of his remarks about the vexed question of the cause of grouse disease. In the wet sods which formed his seat in the butts he found one day a quantity of small thread-like worms answering exactly to the late Spencer Cobbold's description of *Strongylus pergracilis*, and he put several of these carefully into a bottle with bits of the grass, intending to send them for examination to Lord Walsingham as "one of our first entomologists." The railway porter immortalized by John Leech long ago decided that "a tortoise is an insect," but we never knew that a worm was included in that category. Here, and in ignoring Dr. Klein's important work on 'Grouse Disease,' Mr. Stuart-Wortley has "gone beyond his last"; but in everything else—in the chapter on ptarmigan, black-game, and capercaillie—he is admirable.

Mr. Saintsbury has been allotted a very difficult task in being asked to write about the cookery of a bird which is admittedly at its best when roasted in the plainest manner possible; not too underdone, but just short of *saignant*. "The other two simple ways of cooking grouse (I suppose men do boil them, just as they boiled Lord Soulis, but I never knew a case) are broiling and conversion into soup"; and he goes on to describe a broiled or "brandered" grouse, followed by an excellent recipe for making old birds into soup, stews, &c. It is a dance in fetters, but he has done his best; and his short and sparkling treatise is a becoming finish to a capital book.

Deaf-Mutism. By Holger Mygind, M.D., of Copenhagen. (Rebman.)—The author's object is to present an exhaustive description of deaf-mutism considered as a pathological condition, and to that end he divides his subject-matter into four main sections, viz., (1) etiology and pathogenesis; (2) morbid anatomy; (3) symptoms and sequelæ; and (4) diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment. The last three sections scarcely admit of criticism, as they consist almost entirely of notes of cases which have come under the author's personal observation, or which are recorded in the literature of the subject, while the last section, on treatment, &c., is really too slender to furnish much practical information. With the first section the case is different, for here we are presented with a variety of statistical and other data on the distribution of deafness, a discussion of the predisposing causes, immediate and remote, &c. Even here, though, it is a little disappointing to find how extremely shy the author is in putting forward his own views and conclusions on the mass of conflicting theories that he cites as worthy of note. On the important point of causation, the majority of the authorities that he brings

forward ascribe great importance to unfavourable social and hygienic conditions as productive of deaf-mutism. Schmaltz clinches this by pointing out as the result of his researches in Saxony that

"the industrial population, and especially that portion of it which is worst off from a pecuniary point of view—in fact all who are in danger of degenerating both morally and physically on account of insufficient means or poverty, and who consequently are unable or unwilling to take the necessary care of their children—all such persons exhibit the highest percentage of deaf-mutes among their descendants."

On the question of deaf-mutism being hereditary, the author comments, rightly enough, on the difficulty of producing such conformity between the different statistics as to make them suitable as a basis for collective statistics. But in tracing the obvious and, indeed, notorious conclusion that "deaf-mutism in the children of deaf mutes is not accidental, but the result of hereditary influences, which are intensified when coming from both parents at once," he shows a strange hesitation, though finally accepting it. His researches would have been greatly assisted in this inquiry had he studied Prof. Graham Bell's paper 'On the Formation of a Deaf Variety of the Human Race.' Indeed, it is strange that in the bibliography appended to the present work Prof. Bell's numerous and remarkable pamphlets are conspicuous by their absence, though there is no one who has expended more time, pains, and ability in the investigation of deaf-mutism in its numerous and complex phases. One very suggestive paper of Prof. Bell's, 'Is there a Correlation between Defects of the Senses?' deals directly with a topic advanced tentatively, and dealt with rather inconclusively, in the present work. Again, in respect of that fiercely contested point, consanguinity, and its effect on deaf-mutism, the author has not laid stress enough on the need for far better statistics before any definite theory is propounded. In particular, he has omitted to point out that the proportion of non-consanguineous to consanguineous marriages should be ascertained before we can hope to prove that the latter produce more than the ordinary proportion of defective children. In spite of these blemishes the present work contains valuable data on the subject-matter, and the English rendering has been ably done.

Aero-Therapeutics; or, the Treatment of Lung Diseases by Climate. By Charles Theodore Williams, M.D. (Macmillan & Co.)—The effects of climate on disease have been studied by physicians from the earliest times. Hippocrates, in his book, "*περί αέρος, ὕδατος, τόπου*," discusses the effect of sunshine and prevailing winds, of different kinds of water, weather, and seasons in their relations to disease, and compares the climate and inhabitants of Europe and Asia. The ease of communication in modern times has extended the field of aero-therapeutics, while precise thermometric and barometric tables and the results of rain-gauge and vapour observations give exact information as to the nature of climate, but add very little to our knowledge of its effect on disease. Lucretius clearly knew the beneficial effect of the air of Egypt. Dr. Williams, nearly two thousand years later, is able to point out with increased precision the truth of this old notion. He says:—

"This dry climate suits asthma remarkably well, and I have known many asthmatics who have kept entirely clear of attacks during a winter on the Nile. In cases of chronic bronchitis the cough diminishes, expectoration is rapidly reduced, and at last ceases altogether; while the climate suits emphysema on account of the dry warm air and level country, and abundant air without exercise to be obtained on the Nile steamers or dahabieh. The patients I have found who do best in Egypt are cases of chronic pneumonia and chronic dry pleurisy, bronchitis, and chronic rheumatism, the clearing up of chronic pneumonia and pleuritis, with the cessation of all symptoms, being remarkable. One of the best results is the promotion of sleep, which may be due partly to the cool nights and partly to the absence of marine influence, which is more or less exciting."

Of Madeira he states:—

"For the majority of consumptives this sort of climate does more harm than good, but for the catarrhal form of phthisis it is, as my statistics show, a distinct success."

Similar statements, based upon a large experience and invariably written in a judicial spirit, are made about the Andes, California, the Mediterranean, and other climates, and about sea voyages. Dr. Williams has long been recognized as an authority on these subjects, and this book is in every way worthy of his reputation.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

PROF. LEWITSKY, Director of the Observatory at Charkow, has been appointed to succeed the late Prof. Schwarz at Dorpat; and Dr. L. Struve is to take Prof. Lewitsky's place at Charkow.

Attention was called in the Potsdam Photometric 'Durchmusterung' (No. 2500) to the marked discordances in the measures of δ Serpentis and its possible variability. The observations of Mr. Yendell, of Dorchester, Mass. (*Astronomical Journal*, No. 331), have since proved that the star is really a variable of short period. These were made between August 5th and November 4th, 1894, and indicate a variation of about 0.7 magnitude, the maximum being 5.0 and the minimum 5.7; the period not far from 8.7 days. The light curve seems to resemble that of β Lyre, though the observations are not sufficient in number to establish this with certainty. The maxima appear to follow the principal minima at 2.2 and 6.2 days respectively, and a secondary minimum of about 5.5 magnitude intervenes at 4.3 days after the principal minimum. The approximate place of the star for 1900 is R.A. $18^{\text{h}} 22^{\text{m}} 6^{\text{s}}$, N.P.D. $89^{\circ} 52'$.

The observations of Dr. de Ball, confirmed by those of Dr. Holetschek, have proved the variability of a star in the constellation Aquila, which in the Bonn 'Durchmusterung' is numbered -6°, 5419. When brightest this star is of about the ninth magnitude, which sinks to considerably below the tenth, but the period is not yet established.

The *Companion to the 'Observatory'* for 1895 has been issued as usual with the January number of that monthly magazine, and is replete with data useful to the amateur astronomer respecting casual phenomena, variable and double stars, and meteoric radiants.

SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Jan. 7.—Mr. C. R. Markham, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Messrs. W. H. Brown, H. F. J. Burgess, G. L. Farnum, J. E. Farnum, H. W. A. Harrison, W. T. Rabbits, H. Vroom, A. L. G. Williams, and W. J. Woodhouse.—The paper read was 'A Visit to the Lucru Islands,' by Mr. B. H. Chamberlain.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Jan. 2.—Mr. R. E. Way in the chair.—Mr. Councillor Lukey exhibited a photograph of an arched recess which has just been discovered at Canterbury.—Mr. Loftus Brock described the discovery, which has attracted a good deal of local attention since the remains have been stated to be of Roman date. The site is in the rear of the old King's Head Hotel, at the junction of Stour Street and High Street, where Mr. Lukey is erecting a new hotel. A crypt was found arched with a segmental roof, the recess shown by the photograph being in its east wall. The building is of Norman and not Roman date. Many interesting fragments of fourteenth century stonework were found in the excavations, which Mr. Lukey will preserve.—The Chairman exhibited a collection of Roman fragments which have been found on the site of the old hostelry the Blue-Eyed Maid, Southwark. The inn is so called in the Elizabethan map of the district. Many piles were found in course of the excavations. A Roman villa appears to have previously stood there, since one of the objects exhibited was a hypocaust tile for warming purposes.—Mr. de Gray Birch exhibited a series of facsimiles of ancient Welsh documents as an introduction to a lecture by him on this subject.—Mr. Loftus Brock described some of the structural features which have recently been uncovered in the great Roman villa

now being excavated by Mr. G. Payne at Darent, Kent.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*Jan. 8.*—Sir D. Fox, V.P., in the chair.—It was announced that the Council had recently transferred six gentlemen to the class of Members, and had admitted nineteen gentlemen as Students.—The monthly ballot resulted in the election of three Members and of thirty Associate Members.—Three communications having reference to mountain railways were read: 'The St Gothard Mountain Railway and the Stanserhorn Cable-Railway,' by Mr. S. J. Berg; 'The Monistrol-Montserrat Rack-Railway,' by Mr. A. Collett; and 'The Usui Mountain Railway, Japan,' by Mr. C. A. W. Pownall.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.—*Jan. 8.*—*Anniversary Meeting.*—Mr. P. le Page Renouf, President, in the chair.—Prof. G. Bickell, of Vienna, was elected an Honorary Member.—A paper was read by the Rev. E. Margoliouth on the meaning of the Divine name Yaweh.—The following are the officers and Council for the current year: *President*, Mr. P. le Page Renouf; *Vice-Presidents*, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, the Marquess of Bute, Lord Amherst of Hackney, Lord Halsbury, Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, F. D. Mocatta, W. Morrison, Sir C. Nicholson, Rev. G. Rawlinson, Sir H. C. Rawlinson, and the Very Rev. B. P. Smith; *Council*, Rev. C. J. Ball, Mr. Cates, Mr. Christy, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Hill, Rev. A. Löwy, Rev. J. Marshall, Prof. G. Maspero, Mr. Montefiore, Mr. Nash, Prof. E. Naville, Mr. A. Peckover, Mr. J. Pollard, Dr. E. B. Taylor, and Mr. Whyte; *Secretary*, Mr. W. H. Rylands.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON.** London Institution, 5.—'The Use of the Supernatural in Art,' Mr. Wyke Baylis.
- TUES.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Internal Framework of Plants and Animals,' Prof. C. Stewart.
- WED.** Meteorological, 7.—'The Gale of December 21st-22nd, 1894, over the British Isles,' Mr. C. Harding.—8.—Annual General Meeting, President's Address.
- THURS.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Four English Humourists of the Nineteenth Century,' Mr. W. S. Lilly.
- FRI.** Royal Institution, 9.—'Phosphorescence and Photographic Action at the Temperature of Boiling Liquid Air,' Prof. Dewar.
- SAT.** Royal Institution, 3.—'Stained-Glass Windows and Painted Glass,' Mr. L. F. Day.
- MON.** Library Association, 8.—'St. George's, Hanover Square, Public Library described and its Methods explained,' Mr. F. Facy; 'Delivery Stations versus Branches,' Mr. S. Smith.
- TUES.** Royal Academy, 8.—'Painting,' Mr. J. E. Hodgson.
- WED.** Society of Arts, 8.—'The Arc Light,' Lecture I, Prof. S. P. Thompson (Cantor Lecture).
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Science Gossip.

THE third volume of 'The Cambridge Natural History' will be published shortly by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. It contains 'Molluscs,' by the Rev. A. H. Cooke, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of King's College, Cambridge; 'Brachiopods (Recent),' by Mr. A. E. Shipley, M.A., Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, and University Lecturer on the Morphology of Invertebrates; and 'Brachiopods (Fossil),' by Mr. F. R. C. Reed, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge. Although this is the third volume of the series, it is the first to be published. It will be followed in the course of a few months by the first of two volumes in the same series on 'Insects,' by

Mr. David Sharp, F.R.S., Curator in Zoology in the University of Cambridge. Mr. S. F. Harmer and Mr. A. E. Shipley are the editors of 'The Cambridge Natural History,' which will include ten volumes, fully illustrated.

PROF. SHALER, the author of 'Aspects of the Earth' and 'Nature and Man in America,' is publishing a new work, entitled 'Earth and Sea,' which will in a few weeks be brought out in England by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.

The general meeting of the Association for the Improvement of Geometrical Teaching is to be held at University College, Gower Street, on Saturday next. After the conclusion of the formal business, Mr. G. Heppel, M.A., will read a paper on 'Algebra in Schools.' Dr. C. Taylor will discourse upon 'The A.I.G.T. Syllabus of Geometrical Conics'; the Rev. J. J. Milne on 'The Conics of Apollonius'; and Prof. A. Lodge will contribute some 'Notes on Mensuration.'

WE are glad to learn that the ill-advised scheme for destroying the post of Mr. H. N. Ridley as Director of Forests and Gardens to the Government of the Straits Settlements has broken down. Not only would the abolition of this scientific post have been a mistake, but the loss of Mr. Ridley would have been felt by every naturalist who has an interest in the flora or fauna of the region round Singapore.

CAPT. PASFIELD OLIVER is engaged in compiling a new edition of his map of Madagascar, on a scale of forty-two miles to the inch, embracing all the latest corrections of features, names, and places rendered necessary by the most recent explorations and surveys made by French travellers and officers, with a view to the forthcoming expedition. Lieut.-Col. de Beylié, who has lately returned to France from Tamatave with his topographical details of the routes from Mojangar and from Andoveranto to the capital of Imerina, narrowly escaped with his life and his drawings from a plot made to burn the hut in which he was sleeping during his passage to the east coast.

FINE ARTS

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—WINTER EXHIBITION.

(First Notice.—The Reynoldses.)

WHILE the general arrangement of the paintings in this attractive and instructive exhibition follows the old lines, a novelty of considerable importance is introduced by the appropriation of the large Water-Colour Room to a number of designs in goldsmithery, gems, and jewels, besides ivories, wood carvings, cameos, intaglios, &c., a large number of which belong to Sir J. C. Robinson. Another portion is the property of Sir A. W. Franks. To both whole days may well be devoted by the connoisseur. In Gallery I., and also in Gallery III., are hung a number of works by English masters. In the latter gallery there are some Italian and Spanish pictures of the later schools—a collection which is considerably below the average of Burlington House—and also a few large Flemish and Dutch works; while, as heretofore, cabinet pictures and sundry portraits of the earlier Dutch School fill Gallery II., and they, too, although there are some notable exceptions, do not approach the high standard of recent exhibitions. All the primitives, and a number of pictures of a later date, are in Gallery IV. Although Reynolds is well represented, the exhibition is as a whole below the average in value.

Contenting ourselves with calling attention to Mr. C. Butler's interesting portrait of *Inigo Jones* (No. 36), by Dobson, we pass at once to Sir Joshua. It is well known that he amused himself by producing exercises in the manner of certain old masters—Rembrandt especially, and Correggio, and Guercino. Exercises they

may be called, rather than studies, because, of course, the painter had not the slightest intention of producing mere imitations calculated to deceive anybody; but he desired practically to master the principles upon which his fore-runners had worked. There could be no better way of doing this than by the method of which Lord Houghton's hitherto unexhibited picture of *The Tribute Money* (2) is an instance. Here Rembrandt was the painter Sir Joshua had in his mind. In every respect but crispness of touch, limpidity of the deeper shadows, and the expressions, Sir Joshua acquitted himself marvellously well in this quasi-copy. The composition, coloration, and chiaroscuro of his model were well within his reach, and he doubtless learned much by means of this curious *pasticcio*, which is the most ambitious of its kind we have met with. No. 9 is a portrait of General Sir W. Fawcett, Governor of Chelsea Hospital, who, born in 1728, survived till 1804, when he died in Great George Street. This picture was No. 58 in the Grosvenor Gallery in 1884. The old officer wears the uniform of a colonel of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, admirably painted as to the harmony and depth of its redness. The portrait was painted in January, 1784, and is in very good condition. It may have been the "Portrait of an Officer, half-length," which was No. 175 at the Academy in 1785, or the similar No. 284 in the same exhibition. James Ward engraved it in 1801. The sitters' names of Nos. 175 and 284 have been lost. "General Fossot," as Sir Joshua wrote the name, paid Reynolds 100 guineas, a second payment, in August, 1785. Sir W. Fawcett served under the Marquis of Granby, whose picture hangs close by. *John, Marquis of Granby* (13), a three-quarters-length figure, belongs to Mr. Calcraft. It appears to be one of the very numerous versions demanded of Reynolds when his famous whole-length picture of the "signboard hero" was painted for, or, according to Reynolds's book, "given to," the commander's generous antagonist, the Maréchal de Broglie; 250*l.* was the price; Trinity Hall, Cambridge, gave 200*l.* for another. Lord Aylesford lent a version in three-quarters length of some such portrait to the National Portrait Exhibition, 1867. *The Dead Bird* (19), lent by Sir Charles Tennant, depicts the pretty and rather pitiful little girl model whom Reynolds often painted, sitting with her upturned fingers in her lap, and looking down, an attitude he repeated in 'Simplicity.' This picture seems to have been skilfully, if not quite fortunately repainted in parts since it was at the Academy in 1885, before which time it was not exhibited.

A much finer Reynolds is *Miss Kitty Fisher* (22); it is, we believe, the best of three or four very similar versions, one of which was in the Munro Collection till 1878, when it was sold. The picture before us belonged to Lord Crewe, and is lent by Lord Houghton. Nos. 22 was at the British Institution in 1841 and 1866, and No. 631 in the National Portrait Exhibition, 1867. The carnations are a little faded. "Kitty" was rather pale, and she was undoubtedly a victim to cosmetics, like many of her class, and died comparatively young. For several years she was a frequent visitor to Sir Joshua, and sat to him often for portraits commissioned of him by her successive admirers—among them Mr. Crewe, who in April, 1774, paid Reynolds a second 50 guineas "for Kitty Fisher's picture" here in view. It is probable that Mr. Tom Taylor was right in suggesting that she sat for some of the President's naked nymphs, Venuses, and what not, as well as for the busts and hands of damsels less fair than herself. After she married young Mr. Norris (whom our artist painted in 1768), son of the member for Rye, she sat no more. Of her portraits, that at Petworth is one of the choicest; there is, besides that sold with the Novar Collection, another in Lord Bor-

ingdon's gallery at Saltram. As to the technical qualities of Lord Houghton's beautiful picture, it may be said that the grace of the composition, the sweetness of the expression, and the delicate harmonies of the colour and tone are in keeping with the style of her beauty, its soft *espièglerie*, and the subtle voluptuousness which formed part of her charm. She is reported to have possessed a playful, if rather saucy wit, and not a few accomplishments of a kind rare among modern Phrynes. Reynolds it was, we think, who painted her at whole length, holding a music-sheet, and it is recorded that she spoke French with unusual fluency, and, her father being a German stay-maker, doubtless she had mastered his native tongue. There is, accordingly, not a little of the dainty gaiety these characteristics of Kitty suggest in the undertones, bright and fine as they still are, of this lovely picture. Was Sir Joshua in a cynical mood, caused by his own experiences, when he produced the exquisite likeness at Saltram, in which she appears as 'Cleopatra dissolving the Pearl'? The Petworth picture puts in her hand a letter inscribed "For my dearest Life"; this refers to the beginning of her career in April, 1759, and it seems to have been painted for Sir C. Bingham, who, long after, paid 10 guineas to Reynolds as "remaining for Miss Fisher." In a sketch of her which Sir J. C. Robinson lent to the Grosvenor Gallery in 1884 (it had belonged to Caleb Whitefoord), Reynolds, in 1761, represented her as Danaë yielding to the shower of gold. Lord Carysfort lent a lovely study of her, in a bonnet, blue dress, and blue bow, and by the same, to the Academy in 1881, No. 58; and in 1868 Sir W. Fitzgerald sent to Leeds a picture of her holding doves in a basket, No. 1056, which was, as No. 48, in Burlington House in 1879. While several painters endeavoured to immortalize the charms of this renowned courtesan, none did so with half Reynolds's success in the picture before us, of which there are at least two more original versions. Houston, E. Fisher, Watson, and half a dozen more engravers completely failed to catch her sweetness and grace, which were not to be imitated in their black and white.

The next Reynolds is No. 30, the portrait of the *Mr. Crewe* above named, afterwards John, Lord Crewe, and husband of "True-Blue Mrs. Crewe" (see Nos. 96, 99, and 127). The strong-willed man is painted in a firm and stringent manner, with vigorous mastery, powerful contrasts of the lights and darks, and considerable power of colour. In fact, No. 30 deserves greater attention than it is likely to obtain in an inconspicuous place upon the walls where so many more taking works are seen. Mr. Crewe sat to Sir Joshua in April, 1761, just after Kitty Fisher's portrait was begun, and, it is said, later, though we can find no sign of that, nor is there a trace of this work being exhibited till now, or of its being engraved. Lawrence painted the portrait of Crewe which was No. 856 at Kensington in 1867. The more famous 'Pig-a-back' hangs here just below Mr. Crewe's portrait, and is much more like a Reynolds, exhibiting as it does Sir Joshua's softer manner when delineating fair ladies and beautiful children; not even has surpassed the loveliness of this group of Mrs. *Payne-Gallwey* and her son *Charles* (31). Mrs. *Payne-Gallwey* was Philadelphia, daughter of James Delancey, Lieutenant-Governor of New York, and she married Mr. Stephen Payne (who took the name of Gallwey on coming into the possession of the estate of Tofts, in Norfolk), an eminent member of the Dilettante Society, who was included by Reynolds in the picture painted in 1772, now in the National Gallery. The boy grew up to be a soldier, and in April, 1795, when still little more than a lad, was burnt to death at his lodgings in Maddox Street, after returning from a masquerade. This lovely piece was executed about 1778; at any rate, in December, 1779,

70*l.* was received by Sir Joshua for "Mrs. Paine Gallway and Child"; this, according to Cotton's inaccurate version of the artist's account-book, was a first payment. It was seen at the International Exhibition, 1862, and the Academy in 1886. It was then the property of Lord Monson. It was engraved by J. R. Smith in 1780; and afterwards by S. W. Reynolds, G. Zobel, and others. In 1890 the Rev. Mr. Gibbons lent to this gallery an excellent sketch by Reynolds of Mrs. *Payne-Gallwey*. Though of exquisite quality, the picture before us is not much more than a sketch; this may account for the price being so small as 70*l.*, supposing the painter, fearing to spoil so choice a thing, determined to do no more to a work which was manifestly swiftly, although most delicately, executed.

We now pass to the large Reynoldses in Gallery III., in order to call attention to the group of *Frances and Henry Greville* (96), whom the queer taste of their high-handed father, Mr. Fulke Greville, a British Minister to Bavaria and at the Diet of Ratisbon, forced Sir Joshua (then—i. e., c. 1760—very much addicted to allegories of the most absurd sort) to paint as Hebe and Cupid, the girl being barely fifteen when, in September, 1760, she was sent to Mr. Reynolds's fine house in Leicester Fields, of which he had lately taken possession, having purchased the lease. Reynolds, then thirty-seven years of age, was rapidly growing in reputation, and had raised his prices. No doubt Mr. Greville's payment for 'Hebe and Cupid' was soon applied to pay the cost of the chariot with allegorical figures on its panels which the painter set up in that year. Mr. Greville subsequently cut the boy's portrait out of the canvas and replaced it with a tripod at which Hebe was supposed to be ministering. The late Lord Crewe had the figure reinserted. The picture was, however, engraved as it is now by J. McArdell, and the print was published in 1762 "at the Golden Head in Covent Garden." There is an inferior print, by C. Corbitt, representing Hebe alone with the tripod. Unless his figure was originally painted some time after his sister sat in 1760, Henry Greville, who was born in that year, cannot be the boy whose portrait is before us as that of a child of not less than six years of age, although the Catalogue says it is he. J. C. Smith was probably right in saying that it was William Fulke Greville who was displaced for a tripod. Frances Anne was her father's only daughter, and, even in girlhood, was distinguished in the London world by her intelligence and amiability. Lord Crewe exhibited this 'Hebe,' without the boy, as No. 176, at the British Institution in 1866. The picture is not to be confused with Reynolds's other 'Hebe,' or Mrs. *Musters*, which was at the Academy in 1785 and 1885, nor with that earlier 'Hebe' for which Miss Meyer sat, R.A. 1772. The design is even tamer than in most of Sir Joshua's allegories, the execution is laboured, and the whole—owing, we think, to the varnish with which it is covered—has darkened considerably. Miss Greville married Mr. John Crewe, of Crewe Hall (see No. 30), and gave her first sitting after her wedding to Reynolds in April, 1767, having sat to him in the previous March, when still Miss Greville. The bride's sittings were repeated in February, 1768; March, 1769; May, 1770; and March, 1772. It was in the later year Mrs. *Crewe* as *St. Genevieve* (99) was completed; the design of the figure meditatively reading a book was, as Leslie pointed out, borrowed from a sketch made in Italy, probably from nature, in one of Sir Joshua's sketch-books. It served as an illustration of Reynolds's idea of the patron saint of Paris. The picture is now very dark in tone, and, apart from that, faded almost to the condition of a mezzotint, while, however, it retains nearly all its harmonious qualities and much of its

original chiaroscuro. In July, 1772, Mr. Crewe paid Reynolds 157*l.* 10*s.* for 'Mrs. Crewe,' which had been at the Academy exhibition of that year as No. 206, 'A Lady, whole length,' together with the portraits of Miss Meyer as 'Hebe'; Mrs. Quarrington as 'St. Agnes'; White, the pavior and model, as 'A Captain of Banditti'; Dr. Robertson; and Hickey, the attorney and friend of Johnson and Goldsmith and their set. 'Lady Crewe as a Shepherdess' was No. 179 in the British Institution of 1866, together with 'The Tribute Money, after Rembrandt' (see No. 2 before us), and all the other Reynoldses from Crewe Hall which are now here. 'St. Genevieve' was No. 676 at the National Portrait Exhibition, 1867, together with Lawrence's portrait of the lady painted in those much later days when, after visiting her at Hampstead, Madame D'Arbly declared "she uglified everything near her," maliciously adding that the lady's "bloom" was "perfect," as indeed her rouge was, according to Lawrence, not to be questioned. When she sat for St. Genevieve Mrs. Crewe needed no rouge to set off her charms, and Walpole was right when he wrote in his Academy Catalogue that the picture was "one of his best."

Mrs. Crewe appears again in No. 127, a sentimental picture of Mrs. *Crewe* and Mrs. *Bouverie* sitting in a darkening landscape, while Mrs. Crewe points to a pedestal, or tombstone, on which is engraved "Et in Arcadiâ ego," an inscription which has puzzled many commentators, and among them Dr. Johnson, who, looking at this picture when it was being hung at the Academy in 1769, the first exhibition of that body, exclaimed, as Taylor tells us, "What can this mean?—it seems very nonsensical—I am in Arcadia?" The reply was the painter's, "Well, what of that? The king could have told you; he saw it yesterday, and said at once, 'Oh, there is a tombstone in the background. Ay, ay, Death is even in Arcadia!'" Taylor added that the idea was borrowed from Guercino, where revellers stumble over a skull, with a label proceeding from the jaws, and inscribed, "Et in Arcadiâ ego!" But a correspondent of *Notes and Queries*, 1st S. xi. 9, who remarks that in a pastoral by Nicholas Poussin the memorial of a departed shepherd bears the phrase in question, puts the pathetic motive still further back than Guercino or Poussin's time, by referring to a Schidone in the Sciarra Palace, where shepherds are looking at a skull which bears the same inscription. J. C. Smith made the ingenious suggestion that a former marriage of Mr. Crewe with a sister of Mrs. Bouverie might explain the friendship of the second Mrs. Crewe with Mrs. Bouverie and also the allusion to Death in the picture, which was probably painted in April, 1767, when both the ladies sat to Sir Joshua. At the exhibition in Pall Mall in 1767 this work was No. 71, "Portraits of Two Ladies, half lengths. 'Et in Arcadiâ ego,'" and with it hung the portraits of the Duchess of Manchester and her son, or 'Diana disarming Cupid'; Mrs. Blake as 'Juno,' and 'Hope [or Miss Morris] nursing Love.' No. 127 was engraved by J. P. L. Marchi and published in 1770. It was lent to the British Institution in 1841, as 'Lady Crewe and Lady Robert Spencer' (this was the name of Mrs. Bouverie by a second marriage), and to the same gallery in 1866, as well as to the National Portrait Exhibition, 1868, when it was No. 895, and called 'Harriet Fawkener [Mrs. Bouverie's maiden name], Mrs. Bouverie, and Mrs. Crewe,' a sufficiently puzzling designation for two figures. The picture has faded out of harmony, especially as to the now rather ghostly carnations and the lights of the dress of Mrs. Bouverie, which is red.

First Art Society.

IN Room IV. of the National Gallery has been hung, with the number 1427, a picture entitled 'The Dead Christ: a Pietà,' by Hans Baldung (c. 1476-1545), commonly known as Grien or Grün. At a balcony of red marble on our left of the picture stands the Virgin in an attitude expressive of intense sorrow. Her mouth is drawn convulsively down in the manner usual in the pictures of Burgmaier and the school and epoch to which he and Baldung belonged. She holds the left arm of Christ, whose figure occupies the centre of the composition. She is clad in a white wimple and a red gown, over which she wears her traditional red mantle. On our right is St. John, supporting the left arm of the Saviour, and wearing a red body robe under a mantle of pink, shot with blue in the lights. Behind, God the Father appears, robed in blue under a red mantle, and holding across His knees the drooping corpse of the Redeemer. Clouds form the background, and among them the Holy Ghost is hovering. The heads of all the figures bear plain nimbi of metallic gold. The draperies, except the loin-cloth of Christ, are somewhat tortured in the manner of the German painters of the fifteenth century. The carnations are rather pallid, and so indicate that the picture belongs to Baldung's earlier manner; later in his career his flesh became only too red. The figures are of three-quarters length. On the front of the balcony in which they are placed are depicted the donor and his family; in one corner is their escutcheon, bearing three money bags and a broad bar. This picture was bought with the Lewis Fund. In Room XIII., numbered 1429, and on a screen, we notice a small work of Canaletto's, representing the interior of the Rotunda at Ranelagh, the dining boxes under the arcade on the ground level, the orchestra and its musicians, and very numerous gaily dressed promenaders within the arena. The whole is deftly and firmly painted with excellent light and shade.

In addition to the examples which we lately recorded as having been acquired by Dr. Murray for the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities of the British Museum, may be mentioned a beautiful Tanagra-like statuette from Eretria, in terra-cotta, of a damsel holding doves; a Cupid in a similar material, designed with admirable spirit and energy as in the act of running away with a pair of boots, which he carries sole to sole, and drawing up his garment so as to hide the lower part of his laughing face; a smaller figure in the same posture; a capital Silenus; a small vase, c. 400 B.C., painted with figures of a boy and girl teaching a dog to jump through a hoop; and another small vase, on which are depicted two griffins *vis-à-vis*, having between them a heap of coins (?). They are designed with noteworthy energy, and are watching the treasure intently, reminding us of

—when a gryphon through the wilderness
With winged course, o'er hill or moory dale,
Pursues the Arimasian, who by stealth
Had from his wakeful custody purloined
The guarded gold.

This design is painted in polychrome, is Athenian, and dates from early in the fourth century B.C.

THE Fine-Art Society has formed a collection of drawings by Thomas Rowlandson, and appointed to-day (Saturday) for a private view of them; on Monday the public will be admitted to the gallery.

THAT popular, graceful, somewhat weak, and very conventional French painter in watercolours, and book illustrator, M. Alexandre Bida, has died in Alsace. He was born at Toulouse in 1813, became a pupil of E. Delacroix, and, after travelling in 1844-6 in the East, where he studied the costume rather than the manners and customs of the people or the architectural and climatic conditions by which they were surrounded, illustrated books of a serious cast, including portions of the Scriptures, senti-

mental poetry, historical romances, and imaginary travels of various kinds. Some of his drawings are in the Luxembourg. He was an Officer of the Legion of Honour, and of the Belgian Order of Leopold; he obtained a Second Class Medal in 1848, First Class Medals in 1855 and 1867, a *rappel* of the same in 1878, and a Gold Medal in 1889.

SOME other deaths are announced from France: those of Canon Ducis, of Annecy, an authority on Gallo-Roman antiquities; of M. Jean Turcan, the well-known sculptor, who gained a Second Class Medal in 1878, a First Class one in 1883, a Medal of Honour and the Legion of Honour in 1888, and a Grand Prize at the International Exhibition of 1889; and of M. Guillaume Fouace, a painter of still life, and also a sculptor. M. Fouace, who was a pupil of Yvon, gained a Third Class Medal in 1891, and a First Class one at the Champs Élysées in 1893. —M. Louis Martinet, a pupil of Gros—formerly Inspector of Fine Arts, and afterwards Director of the Théâtre Lyrique—has also died at the age of eighty. Along with Théophile Gautier he founded the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts.

WE have on more than one occasion called attention to the neglected state of the so-called Pompey's Pillar at Alexandria. We are glad to hear that the municipal authorities have at last determined on enclosing the ground on which the column stands. It is to be hoped they will also give stringent orders to the guardians not to allow fragments to be chipped off the ancient pedestal, as has been the practice in the past. The pedestal, indeed, is in such a dilapidated condition as to seriously endanger the stability of the column.

MUSIC

NEW EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS.

Forty Melodic and Progressive Vocal Exercises for Soprano or Tenor. By Auguste Panseron. Edited by A. Randegger. (Novello, Ewer & Co.)—The value of the vocal studies of the late M. Panseron, who was for many years a professor at the Paris Conservatoire, has been recognized for many years. The present books consist of the second part of his 'Méthode de Vocalisation pour Soprano et Tenor,' and teachers who have not as yet made acquaintance with this work will find the exercises agreeable as well as serviceable for their pupils, as they are tuneful, and in every sense beautifully written for the voice.—The same publishers send Books 9, 12, 13, 16, 20-24, 33, 34, and 47-50 of *Progressive Studies for the Pianoforte*, edited by Franklin Taylor. We have already referred on more than one occasion to earlier issued volumes of a remarkable series of primers for the pianoforte by Mr. Franklin Taylor, who may certainly be regarded as one of the most laborious and thoroughly competent English teachers of the present day. The present books contain studies in "broken chords," examples for the left hand, in arpeggios, velocity, figures in sequence, "double notes," that is to say exercises chiefly in thirds and sixths, accompanied melody, and "extensions and skips." The studies are not only arranged in the groups indicated above, but are revised as to the fingering, the method generally though incorrectly known as foreign, but really English, being universally adopted. Among the composers from whom excerpts have been taken are Cramer, Czerny, Kalkbrenner, Clementi, Bertini, Wolff, Steibelt, Aloys Schmitt, Ries, Mayer, Döhler, Moscheles, Köhler, Berger, and the editor of the work, Mr. Franklin Taylor being entitled to the gratitude of musicians for his conscientious labours in a branch of the art in which the spirit of the charlatan is frequently dominant. —To the list of Messrs. Novello & Co.'s useful "Music Primers" must now be added *Basses and Melodies for Students of Harmony*, selected

and adapted by Ralph Dunstan. This is a somewhat curious volume, nearly all the examples being either the upper or lower parts of themes taken from works by the great masters, which the student is expected to rearrange according to his own ideas. If he should recognize the melodies or basses, the task will, of course, be comparatively easy, but otherwise it will be a sort of musical puzzle which it will be the duty of teachers to elucidate.

New issues of books intended for those students who elect to enter for the "Local Centre Examinations in Music" by the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College are to hand (Augener & Co.). They comprise movements from suites, sonatas, and miscellaneous works by Bach, Haydn, Beethoven, Mozart, Clementi, Moscheles, Weber, Schumann, Handel, Raff, Hummel, Mendelssohn, Chopin, and composers of lesser fame. Greater facilities than are now afforded for those who desire to attain proficiency in any branch of music, either as professional artists or amateurs, could scarcely be imagined.

Messrs. Cocks & Co. send *Method of Voice Production*, by Edwin Holland, a work of considerable value; a revised and enlarged edition, in two books, of *A Standard Violin Tutor*, by Basil Althaus; and a book of four *Studies in the Style of the Great Masters* for the pianoforte, by J. H. Bonawitz.—We have also received *Touch and Technique*, for artistic pianoforte playing, by Dr. William Mason, an esteemed American teacher and theorist, edited, with numerous additions, by Ridley Prentice (Curwen & Sons); *Historical Facts relating to Music*, by H. J. Taylor (Weekes & Co.), a book written in catechism form, containing a quantity of information, not all correct or complete (List's works do not, so far as we are aware, include several symphonies, and among Wagner's chief works 'Parsifal' is not included; many other slips might be noted, but on the whole the book is instructive); and *Practical Harmony*, a concise treatise by Stewart Macpherson (Joseph Williams).

Six Easy Pieces for the Violin. By Hubert Herkomer. (Novello, Ewer & Co.)—Those who admire Mr. Herkomer's peculiar style of draughtsmanship will find something to interest them in this folio volume, the pieces being supplemented by full-page drawings on stone. They are sufficiently grotesque to satisfy the warmest champions of eccentricity, and are supposed to illustrate the pieces, which are named respectively 'Frühlingslied,' 'Klagelied,' 'Liebeslied,' 'Herbstlied,' 'Wanderlied,' and 'Abendlied.' The significance of some of them, however, cannot easily be guessed. We can speak in higher terms concerning the music, and from this album and his previous publications it may be presumed that Mr. Herkomer might have won distinction as a composer, had he not elected to devote himself mainly to other forms of art. One or two of the pieces are rather monotonous, notably the 'Herbstlied,' the melody of which recalls Wallace's "Scenes that are brightest"; but others are fresh and interesting, the last remark applying as much to the accompaniments as to the violin part, the pianist, indeed, having the more arduous share of the work. Some of the pieces will probably be introduced at concerts in the course of the season.

Musical Gossip.

MR. MURRAY promises a selection from the songs of the late Lady Dufferin (Countess of Gifford), set to music by herself and others. It will form a companion to the volume of her poems lately published.

THE Christmas recess in the matter of concert-giving has been more prolonged than was anticipated, and the only performances in London calling for notice this week are the two ballad concerts at St. James's and Queen's Halls last Saturday afternoon. Both programmes were

remarkable for the large proportion of what may be called high-class songs, very few tenth-rate ballads being included. This indicates an advance in public tastes, as the managers of these concerts naturally seek to provide the form of entertainment which will secure them the largest measure of patronage. Details are not required, but the reappearance of Madame Minnie Hauk at the Queen's Hall after several years' absence should be chronicled, though, unfortunately, the clever *prima donna* was suffering from hoarseness.

THE sensible plan of selecting the best available chorists from all the leading musical towns in the West Riding of Yorkshire for the Leeds Festival is to be again adopted at the next gathering. The total strength of the choir will be increased from 340 to 350, and contingents are to be drawn from Huddersfield, Bradford, Halifax, Dewsbury, and Batley.

WE regret to hear that the performances of the Glasgow Choral Union this season under Mr. Henschel are not being well supported, and it is said that Mr. Manns will be asked to resume the duties of conductor next season. We are not in possession of sufficient evidence to account for the present want of support for the most valuable enterprise north of the Tweed.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Wilhelm Wiener, the esteemed violinist, which occurred on Monday last. He was an agreeable solo executant and an admirable leader of an orchestra. Mr. Wiener was related by marriage to the late Desmond Ryan, for many years musical critic of the *Standard*.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

- Mr. C. Hopkins Ould's Organ Recital in Aid of the Middlesex Hospital, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
- National Sunday League Musical Society, Sullivan's 'Prodigal Son' and Rossini's 'Stabat Mater', 7, Queen's Hall.
- South Place Popular Concert, 7.
- Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- Mr. Arnold Dolmetsch's Concert of Old Music, 8.30, Salle Erard.
- Senior Marco's Concert, 5, St. James's Hall.
- Ballad Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- London Symphony Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
- Royal Choral Society, 'The Golden Legend', 8, Albert Hall.
- Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- London Ballad Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
- Miss Annie C. Muirhead's Concert for Children, 3, West Theatre, Albert Hall.
- Polytechnic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

HAYMARKET. — 'An Ideal Husband,' Comedy in Four Acts. By Oscar Wilde.

TERRY'S. — Independent Theatre: 'Thyrza Fleming,' in Four Acts. By Dorothy Leighton.

ST. JAMES'S. — 'Guy Domville,' a Play in Three Acts. By Henry James.

ONE of the constituent elements in wit is the perception of analogies in things apparently disparate and incongruous. Accepting this as a canon and testing by it the pretensions of Mr. Oscar Wilde in his latest play, that writer might be pronounced the greatest of wits, inasmuch as he perceives analogies in things absolutely antagonistic. His presumable end is gained, since a chorus of laughter attends his propositions or paradoxes. It requires, however, gifts of a kind not usually accorded to humanity to think out statements such as "High intellectual pleasures make girls' noses large," "Only dull people are brilliant at breakfast," "All reasons are absurd," and the like. Uttered as these things are by Mr. Charles Hawtrey, who for once is entrusted with *façades* instead of fibs, they pass muster and create amusement, and it is not until one turns to them again that one perceives how impertinent and extravagant they are. As parts of the trapping of a vigorously ridden hobby-horse of affectation, they beget amusement rather than offence. It is difficult to be angry with the author or displeased with his play. 'An

Ideal Husband' has a certain amount of story, the development of which proves not uninteresting. Accident is too potent a factor in the action to permit of its being genuinely dramatic. Without the aid of *ficelles* the required termination could never have been reached. When reached even it is wholly disproportionate to what the author holds to be the offence, and a man whom Mr. Wilde sets before the audience as a traitor and a scoundrel escapes with no worse penalty than a fright and with one of the most coveted of human rewards. Nothing, in fact, beyond a curious complication is brought about by human folly. Separate scenes and characters are amusing and interesting, and the whole, with the salt of Mr. Wilde's impertinence, wins acceptance. The scenes and costumes are exquisite, and much of the acting is praiseworthy. Mr. Hawtrey and Mr. Brookfield, the latter as a servant, are seen to most advantage in a cast that comprised Mr. Waller, Mr. Bishop, Miss Fanny Brough, Miss Florence West, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Maude Millett, and Miss Helen Forsyth.

In 'Thyrza Fleming' Miss Dorothy Leighton deals, with apparent openness, with a subject indicated in 'The Second Mrs. Tanqueray' and in 'Lady Windermere's Fan.' Her hero espouses the daughter of a woman with whom he has had relations which are described as "close," but are discreetly left undefined. We have not yet gone so far back to the antique world as to contemplate such matters with pleasure, or even with equanimity, and the play, though accepted with respect and even pleasure by the select and much-enduring patrons of the Independent Theatre, would scarcely be relished by a general public. Mr. Bernard Gould and Miss Winifred Fraser played in it as the mated lovers, the mother rival of her daughter being presented by Miss Esther Palliser, who shows histrionic possibilities as yet wholly undeveloped.

Mr. James's new play has been the means of inflicting upon Mr. Alexander the first rebuff that that youngest, most spirited, and hitherto most fortunate of managers has received. That this result was probable was felt by those who had seen how hopelessly undramatic are the works which Mr. James has avowedly written with an eye to stage presentation. It would be difficult to select among modern writers a man whose method has less that lends itself to stage treatment. He has selected in the present instance a pretty and simple story which he has placed in a stirring epoch, 1780, the year of the Gordon riots. His characters are Roman Catholics, and the plot deals with the temporary abandonment and ultimate resumption, by one of them, of a design of entering the priesthood. The last member of a noble house, Guy Domville finds his duty and his inclination in accord when he goes into the world to marry and beget Catholic descendants. The Church of Rome has a full sense of the value of secular service, and one of the most distinguished of her children has, it is said, been induced, at the bidding of the highest powers, reluctantly to substitute service in the world for the priestly mission on which his heart was fixed. Guy Domville's ex-

perience of mundane affairs is short and disappointing. The girl he is to marry loves another, to whom he resigns her, and those whom he has regarded as benefactors prove to be mercenary, treacherous, and vile. Too quickly despairing, he shuts his eyes to the moral beauty of others around him and the womanly love which envelopes and consecrates him, and he retires to Douai to fulfil his original mission. Pleasant enough is this idea, and the dialogue has an old-world flavour which commends it to the palate. It is redundant, however, and at times languid. What is more dangerous, the motives and the actions of the hero are alike unreal. Why he ultimately refuses to marry a woman he loves and by whom he is adored, why he goes miles about to reach the spot next to that he occupies, why, indeed, he does anything or nothing, perplex and irritate the spectator, and drive the more exacting part of the house to mutiny. The end is neither interesting nor pathetic, though a splendid piece of acting on the part of Miss Marion Terry almost rendered it the latter. Had Mr. James humanized a little more his super-ethereal hero, had he woven into the story (though this we say with diffidence) some trace of the kind of persecution to which Catholics were at that time exposed, and had he shown his heroine a little stronger in grit, he might have made a drama of that which has no right to the name. Mr. Alexander threw himself with exemplary devotion into the character of Guy Domville, and was well supported by Mr. Waring and other members of his company. His efforts were vain, and will now probably be directed to the task of finding a successor to an ill-starred play.

Dramatic Gossip.

THAT the reception accorded Mr. Henry James by the first-night audience was deplorable is not to be denied. It is nothing short of an outrage to treat as a criminal a man of letters, a stranger in our midst, whose only offence is having written a play which failed to please. From no point of view, moreover, can the utterance of noises so hideous be defended. Granting these things, there is something to be said against those who call themselves the friends of the author, and for those who will be regarded as his enemies. The latter did not seek to interfere with the progress of the play, and restrained all demonstrations until the curtain had descended on the last act. This is a kind of reticence or moderation not always displayed, and showed in the malcontents a species of recognition of serious effort. The first night's public has, moreover, been indoctrinated by the press with a belief in its own judicial powers, and its right to manifest its approval or censure. Taking seriously what it has been taught, it may conceivably plume itself upon its moderation.

It is, on the other hand, unwise for friends, even though in a majority, to summon an author before an audience seen to be ill-disposed. Firm in its sense of its rights, the gallery regards such demonstration as hostile, and is increasingly clamorous in rebuke. They are but indiscreet friends who invite a man to certain humiliation. Is it, moreover, dignified on the part of a gentleman of education and refinement to come forward and challenge either the commendation or the censure? The custom of so doing probably took rise in the fact of dramatists being, as a rule, actors, and as such accustomed to solicit or accept manifestations of the sort. In the case of others it is indiscreet and unworthy. The expediency of leaving to the gallery the de-

cision on a question of art is open to debate; the inexpediency of inducing men who have achieved a reputation to quit their privacy and present themselves publicly on the stage scarcely admits of discussion.

A CORRESPONDENT writes with reference to the remark we quoted last week from Sir Theodore Martin's translation of Schiller's 'Lager':—

"It is to be regretted that Sir Theodore Martin did not peruse Coleridge's own remarks respecting the reasons which induced him to omit the 'Camp.' If the accomplished translator had referred to Coleridge's preface to the versions of the 'Piccolomini' and the 'Death of Wallenstein,' instead of quoting the second-hand observations of Prof. Brandl, he would not have declared, as he does in the 'Introductory Note' to the 'Camp,' that Coleridge omitted the latter in consequence of the smallness of the remuneration."

The same correspondent also points out a grave error in the lines we quoted from Sir Theodore Martin's translation. The last line but two runs in the English version: "It [i.e., the exceptional regiment] never was foremost in the fight," which is quite contrary to the original. The line should run, "It ever was," &c. Possibly "never" is a misprint.

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No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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